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Sub-Saharan Africa Report

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16 May 1984

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MAUROY VISIT REAFFIRMS DEFENSE AGAINST AGGRESSION

N'Djamena INFO TCHAD in French 4 Apr 84 pp 4-5

[Article: "There Remains a Difference Between Chad and France Concerning the Means of Achieving Peace"]

[Text] The French Prime Minister's visit was so short that the Chadians did not grasp all of its significance. As for us, we will draw two principal lessons from it: the reaffirmation of French support for the Chadian government and the steadfastness in the positions of the two countries.

Pierre Mauroy's visit to Chad which follows those of several high-ranking French personalities, all expressing France's interest in Chad, is the best indicator of the solidity of the Paris-N'Djamena axis. This support was clearly expressed by the French Foreign Minister who placed a particular emphasis on the inviolability of the Chadian borders. It is in the name of this sacred principle that France has decided on operation MANTA. It is France's duty to intervene as it did in order to "prevent aggression against the country." In the eyes of the French authorities, the Libyan undertaking is much more dangerous in that it not only may be fatal to Chad but also to many other new African states which have inherited their borders from the period of colonialization. Mauroy who expressed this conviction to the French community in N'Djamena with whom he met before his departure, emphasized that the formation of the French nation took place over the course of centuries. It is easily understood that the majority of African states which have been established during the course of this century know a certain number of problems similar to those which confront Chad at the present time. But in order for these African states to become, in turn, solid nations, they must, at any cost, exist and develop within the borders which were handed down to them at the time they attained independence.

Consequently, the French mission in Chad is essential and we have drawn the conclusion from this that France will not abandon the Chadian people in this time of hardship. The Prime Minister has said moreover, that France is absolutely not thinking of clearing out as it did, in a completely different context, in Libya. The French troops we have seen in Moussoro, transformed and equipped, the significant military force set up around the twenty-first Marine Infantry Regiment (RIMA) including the formidable

armored squadron which employs AMX 10 tanks, the reassuring serenity of the officers and the soldiers who are not affected by the heat or by the desolation of this desert countryside, all these things have reinforced in us the feeling that the French force is aware of its mission and that it intends to carry it through to completion.

The second lesson learned from Mauroy's visit is the difference that still exists concerning the choice of means to achieve peace. France considers, and Mauroy repeated it several times, that after having put a stop to the Libyan aggression, the solution to the Chadian conflict must be sought, above all, on political and diplomatic grounds, even if the military aspect is not entirely ruled out. France feels it is necessary to create the conditions for this peaceful solution by rallying the will and support of the other African state around the Chadian government and President Habre in order to achieve this goal. As for the Chadians that negotiated perspective is not rejected a priori. Moreover, the Chadian government has not missed any opportunity to achieve Chadian unity through dialogue. Since 7 June 1982, its approaches toward all the opposition groups have no longer mattered and the results within the country are today evident with the rallying of all the armed opposition groups in the South. The approaches toward the external opposition groups have never ceased.

And these efforts continue. But, as the President of the Republic has said, we do not have any illusions because we are not encountering the same receptiveness from these so-called opposition groups. The reason for this is quite simple. Libya, which is the leader, does not want to hear about a peaceful solution. This is why the government of Chad has reiterated its demand to see France improve its aid to Chad as much as it can. Chad's position is not the result of some militaristic spirit as some people think, but it is imposed on it by the situation with which it is faced. President Habre has said that Chad does not want war, but as long as the situation lasts, he will have to find the means to face up to it. (A. T. P.)

12253

CSO: 3419/589

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

PRESIDENT OBIANG ON TIES WITH SPAIN

PM061445 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 22 Apr 84 p 4

[Interview with President Obiang Nguema by Antonio Cano; place, date not given]

[Text] The official period set by the Equatorial Guinean Government for former settlers or their descendants to reclaim their estates expired 20 April. Some have already done so; for the rest, who lack the money or morale to do so, the Spanish Government is attempting to secure unofficially a further extension.

In an office with a loud carpet and without air conditioning, President Obiang, without gesticulating and with a smart appearance, navy blue suit and a gold watch on his left wrist, asserted that the aim in setting a deadline for seeking the restoration of the land which the Spanish abandoned 10 years ago, fleeing from Masie's nationalism, is "to remind them that they should not remain silent and invite them to come." "The measures which the government is adopting constitute an appeal, a sign to those former landowners to attend to the farming of their poverty," he added, as perspiration flooded his broad forehead.

"From the outset, when their majesties visited Equatorial Guinea for the first time, I expressed in a speech the desire that cooperation between governments be backed up by private investments. I also expressed my opinion that Spanish private businessmen should have their government's support, but so far there has been no interest on the Spanish Government's part in connection with this matter."

The upshot of this, according to Obiang, is that "we can see no activity by Spanish private enterprises."

"Extensions Are Detrimental"

The first wave of landowners returning to Equatorial Guinea had disastrous results, according to President Obiang. "In 1979 we gave credits to the Spanish farmers who returned to recover their estates, and many of them left immediately afterward, abandoning the land again. We still have not recovered those credits, and they figure as debentures in the commercial banks."

Theodoro Obiang, a diligent 3d-year law student with the Open University, believes that it is not possible to continue to talk about granting further extensions to the former landowners because "this is to the detriment of the national economy, in the sense that there are international bodies which wish to support the agricultural sector but wish first to certify the ownership of the estates." "We have a very large credit from the World Bank, but this body wants the government to clarify the ownership of the estates. That is why it is urgent that the former landowners decide whether they want their estates, and if they do not do so, the government will have to decide. We are not going to talk about successive extensions, because Equatorial Guinea's situation is critical and the World Bank credit must be used this year."

The Equatorial Guinean president asserted that "as soon as the landowners arrive, once they satisfy their obligations to the state, they will automatically recover their estates, and the government assures them that they can work in peace, without any problem."

"I know that those businessmen have always raised the problem of lack of manpower, but it is not the government of Equatorial Guinea which must resolve it. Let them themselves hire their manpower, either Equatorial Guineans or foreigners. Our government would raise no objection to the hiring of foreign power; or on the contrary, we would look very favorably upon that action, because the government is the first to want all the estates to be restored."

What the Obiang government cannot do is to give economic guarantees. "I cannot guarantee the convertibility of the currency under these circumstances. There is a plan to make it convertible when we join the African Financial Community [CFA] franc area."

"Guineans Have Become Accustomed to Doing Nothing"

With a tender expression and sincerity seen only in countries of those latitudes, the pupil of the Saragossa Military Academy, where he received his commission as a second lieutenant, acknowledged that "Guineans have become accustomed to doing nothing; despite all the government's urgings that they take up productive jobs, they have become accustomed to the speculative activities of the sale of imported products," supported by "the machinations of certain foreign businessmen."

Obiang upholds the idea, probably a minority idea among the country's ruling class, that Equatorial Guinea's development depends on having good relations with Spain, which he currently describes as "excellent." He likes Spanish soccer and the "one, two, three" program.

"I would say to the Spanish people that they should not worry about our entry into the franc area." He is aware that this issue has nearly cut him off once and for all from Madrid, but he is most reluctant to have to give explanations about this issue because he believes "that is as if I were to ask the Spanish Government whether Spain's entry into the EEC would affect relations between Spain and Equatorial Guinea. It is an internal problem."

"Relations with France have always been good. France is doing what is within its power, and we are satisfied, but France is currently not imposing its authority on Equatorial Guinea," he avowed. "It is a mere opinion of certain political observers to say that our relationship with France is an attempt to shun Spain. Not at all. I have always stated that Guinea cannot develop outside relations with Spain, because of the cultural identity between Spain and Equatorial Guinea. The economic problem must not be confused with the problem of cultural identity."

"There should be no doubt that relations with Spain will continue, but there should be a conviction on Spain's part that Equatorial Guinea is a country which has its own identity and tradition, and we have formed our own state. Any country which wishes to have good relations with Equatorial Guinea must respect these conditions."

Obiang believes that frequently "the problem is one of suspicion, because many people have wished to believe that France will be the country to have political influence in Equatorial Guinea. I would venture to confirm one point: France could have an influence as regards the economy, because it is France which supports the CFA franc, but in the political sphere Equatorial Guinea should maintain its current stance."

"Issue of Cooperation Remains Unresolved"

However, Spanish-Equatorial Guinean relations are constantly at breaking point for major or minor reasons. Currently, in Obiang's opinion, "there is no dispute and no major difference after clarifying the circumstances which arose with the affair of Sergeant Mico."

Nevertheless, the issue of cooperation between the two countries, in which Spain has invested about 15 billion pesetas, remains unresolved. "Cooperation should be planned in accordance with both sides' ideals, and not be channeled, as the Spanish motherland is seeking to do, unilaterally and without taking the Equatorial Guinean Government into account."

"It could be said that currently there is a deadlock as regards cooperation; we are paralyzed. The only thing that is operating is the cooperation in technical assistance, but as for economic assistance, the Equatorial Guinean Government has received no credit or any economic support in order to be able to plan its development for 3 years." "There are plans laid down by both sides at the last joint economic commission meeting held in Madrid, but the economic resources to permit implementation of these plans are lacking."

Obiang complains that "after the changeover in the Spanish administration, it seems that there was no understanding on the Spanish Government's part of the agreements which the previous government had signed with the Equatorial Guineans." He stressed that "relations among states should not change for ideological reasons."

Teodoro Obiang showed himself proud of having allowed the people of Equatorial Guinea "the exercise of their freedoms, the exercise of their rights," but

appeared ill at ease when asked about the danger of a coup in the country. "It is a question which I do not wish to answer, although I could answer it quite confidently, without your being able to ask me a second question about whether there is any secret interest in the current Equatorial Guinean administration being changed, because to say whether there will be a change means that there are fears on the government's part."

"The government is confident," he maintained, "that the planning which has been done will be carried out, and if, unfortunately, we were unable to carry out our program, this would be resolved through democratic channels."

The president is following "with concern" the events in neighboring Cameroon--a bordering mirror in which the Equatorial Guineans look at themselves--although he believes that "this is an internal matter," that extends that opinion to "the situation in Chad."

He replied with an emphatic "yes" to a question about whether he is supported by the institutions and by his people. He emphasized that Equatorial Guinea's only problem is its inability to start development, and urged, last, that the Spaniards "return."

CSO: 3448/10

SITUATION IN COUNTRY OUTLINED; PNDC REPORTEDLY LACKS SUPPORT

London AFRICA NOW in English Mar 84 p 67

[Text]

Today, 27 years after independence, less than 2% of over 13m Ghanaians can lay some sort of claim to satisfaction in the country's on-going "revolutionary" process. Under the military Provisional National Defence Council (PNDC), there is too much ambiguity, too many contradictions, too much rhetoric and too much uncertainty.

A critical analysis of the PNDC's two-year rule shows a gamble on untried and unproven political ideas. If the country's past civilian regimes have been corrupt, military juntas in Ghana have been unstable, not least the PNDC which so far has had to contend with four (officially announced) attempts to overthrow the government.

Thus, the country has become a garrison state, restive and economically stagnant. The need to keep the PNDC in power has helped to divert the attention of the country's leaders from the real national problems.

The membership of the PNDC itself has constantly changed since December 31, 1981. Reshuffles have become a common feature and the PNDC does not hesitate to throw out those within the regime who happen to speak out against some of the shortcomings of the "revolution."

Out of the seven or so who initially constituted the PNDC, only the chairman, Jerry Rawlings, and Warrant Officer Adjei-Buadi are still in the decision-making body. Father Vincent Damuah, a priest of the Catholic Church, resigned because he could no longer put up with what he believed was the ruthlessness of the regime. Chris Atim escaped by the skin of his teeth and went into exile where he now condemns the regime in which he had reposed so much confidence. Amartey Kwei faced the firing

squad last year without naming the real culprits in the abduction and murder of the three High Court judges and the retired army major in 1982.

If the regime has a major political weakness, it is its obsession with loyalty. Over the past two years Secretaries of State have been appointed; some qualified for the job just because of their loyalty to the PNDC. Therefore, when these Secretaries have proved themselves to be incompetent, the government has been most reluctant to change them.

Members of the People's Defence Committees (PDC) are known to be untouchable. Rawlings once went on national radio to declare war on those who sought to destroy any PDC. He said this was tantamount to an affront to the existence of the government. Yet, as has been recorded, the worst crimes of the "revolution" have been perpetrated by PDCs and soldiers.

On the economic front, the National Mobilisation Programme launched early last year has not received massive public patronage. The programme, geared towards increased productivity at all levels of the economy, has merely been paid lip service. The government has not helped by failing to offer incentives to stimulate the interest of Ghanaians in the programme.

The government's economic recovery programme has fallen short of all expectations. In fact, it has simply worsened the value of the cedi. Two years of rhetoric and unrealistic economic management have made all the difference. The cedi is now valued at 30 to \$1; a far cry from when it was 2.75 to \$1 before the coup of December 31, 1981.

The government itself has been short of funds to meet its commitments to workers.

Thus, for many a Ghanaian it is a question of survival by fair means or foul. It is therefore not surprising that the black market is once more doing flourishing business.

But there is not enough money circulating officially because those who operate on the black market are very wary of the Citizens Vetting Committee (CVC) which was set up to recover money from tax evaders. People are very reluctant to lodge money in the bank for fear of being questioned about the source of the amount by the CVC.

The highest paid Ghanaian worker receives 3,000 cedis a month and he has to contend with 300 for a proper meal for a family of four. The notion that the food situation has improved is debatable. Admittedly, plantains which were a rarity not so long ago have begun resurfacing in considerable quantities. Nonetheless, housewives complain that the prices are prohibitive.

Four fingers of plaintain cost 40 cedis and an average size tuber of yam sells for 120. This is hardly enough for a family of three. Lack of funds and sacks to purchase and store maize for the lean season this year is worsening the situation. Some PNDC District Secretaries have already spoken of the dire consequences.

The Ghana Food Distribution Corporation's (GFDC) inability to pay farmers on time has created a lucrative market for middlemen. Although the official price per bag of maize is 1,800 cedis, the middlemen are offering the farmers 1,200 — cash on delivery. The farmers hardly complain about the 600 shortfall.

The PNDC has projected that it would need 660,000 bags of maize this year at a cost of 600m cedis. But the funds are simply not available. To date, only about 100,000 has been made available to the GFDC.

This rather gloomy situation has given the PNDC's internal and external opponents much to talk about. The Ghana Democratic Movement (GDM), just before the second anniversary of the December 31 coup, called for the setting up of "liberal and democratic institutions of government and of social management so that Ghanaians can regain the freedom and prosperity which we have known before and which we need in order to galvanise the nation into a glorious era of re-birth and reconstruction."

The two-year-old curfew (now it is between midnight and 4.30 a.m.) has had quite a debilitating effect on Ghanaians. All they want now is a return to sanity. If there were a referendum today on whether the PNDC should stay or not, there would be an overwhelming vote against its staying in power ●

BRIEFS

STRIKING CANNERY WORKERS FIRED--More than 200 workers of the Tema Fish Cannery Ltd who went on strike to back their demand for the payment of their bonus for 1983 have been dismissed. According to an official of the company, the industrial action by the workers, who are mainly women, is illegal because the bonus issue was still being negotiated. He said the company lost more than half a million cedis through the action. Meanwhile, the Maritime and Dock Workers Union has appealed to the management of the company to rescind the decision while efforts are made to solve the problem amicably. [Text] [AB270730 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 27 Apr 84]

CSO: 3400/938

EXTENT OF WESTERN AID, COMPANY INVOLVEMENT

Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURT ZEITUNG/BLICK DURCH DIE WIRTSCHAFT
in German 30 Mar 84 p 2

[Article: "Western Aid for Projects in Guinea: "Special Support
for Projects on Development and Marketing of Mineral Deposits"]

[Text] W. An. FRANKFURT. The government of Guinea has come to realize that aid from socialist countries is not adequate to provide a positive influence on the economic development of its poor nation. For several years now, therefore, Guinea has been trying to interest companies in the Western industrialized nations in more practical involvement in this area. Up to now, decisions regarding significant investments have primarily involved the mining industry. Guinea is an important supplier of bauxite and alumina (aluminum oxide). In 1982 Guinea produced 10.2 million tons of bauxite versus 12.8 million tons the year before. For 1983, an increase in production was again expected. Recently, this nation's first diamond mine was opened. Other mineral deposits such as iron ore are awaiting development. In addition to specific industrialized nations, including the FRG, and some rich Arab oil-producing nations, international organizations are also promoting Guinean development projects; these include the European Development Fund, the World Bank and the African Development Bank.

In February 1984 the FRG awarded Guinea a grant in the amount of DM 17 million for expansion of the central telex station in the capital city of Conakry and an additional DM 2 million to finance related projects dealing with a rate structure and accounting system for the station and with the fiscal stability of the operation. Siemens AG of Munich and Berlin is to be responsible for expansion of the central telex station. Weidleplan Consulting GmbH of Stuttgart has been included as a consulting firm. The previous expansion of the electrical supply network in the capital Conakry (DM 34.6 million) and of the Conakry harbor (DM 16.1 million) were also financed with aid from the FRG. For the harbor project the African Development Bank of Abidjan (Ivory Coast) also granted a loan of 12.69 million accounting units (one accounting unit = approx. \$ 1.07) in June 1983, while the International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank provided a \$13 million loan, also in June 1983

German engineering consulting firms received contracts for the two last-mentioned projects. Decon Deutsche Energie-Consult Ingenieurgesellschaft mbH of Bad Homburg v.d.H. was consultant for the expansion of the electrical supply network in Conakry. This company was also awarded a contract to complete a study on electrification in 10 towns. In addition to HPC Hamburg Port Consulting GmbH of Hamburg, the firm Prof. Dr. Lackner & Partner, Beratende Ingenieure GmbH & Co. KG of Bremen-Vegesack was also involved in the expansion project at Conakry harbor.

Also within the scope of the Conakry harbor expansion project, Krupp Ruhrorter Schiffswerft GmbH of Duisburg was awarded a contract in the fall of 1983 by the Ministry of Transportation of Guinea to build two harbor tugs, as well as one mooring boat and one pilot boat. The contract, worth nearly DM 12 million, also includes the training of Guinean crews. The World Bank is financing the acquisition of these four ships to be delivered in the summer of 1984. Krupp Ruhrorter Schiffswerft GmbH has previously built 52 ferries for Guinea.

A textiles project which is being carried out with aid from the European Development Fund, and in which several German suppliers are involved, has already been reported on in our October 28, 1983 edition ("New Textile Projects in African Nations"). The European Development Fund also awarded Guinea a grant of 6.35 million accounting units (one accounting unit = approx. DM 2.28) in mid-March 1984 for agrarian development in the Kankan-Siguiri region and an additional grant of 1.26 million accounting units for technical aid and ancillary equipment for the Institut Polytechnique Secondaire Maritime.

Another German interest of note is the state-owned Vereinigte Aluminium-Werke AG (VAW) of Berlin and Bonn which has minority holdings in two companies. The first of these is a cooperative venture, Friguia of Conakry, which is the sole producer of alumina (aluminum oxide) in Africa. In 1982 its Kimbo plant produced 535,000 tons of aluminum oxide, 15 percent less than in 1981. The second company is the Compagnie des Bauxites de Guinee (CBG) of Conakry which has developed the huge bauxite deposits of Boke-Sangaredi. In 1982 CBG shipped 7.9 million tons of metallurgical bauxite via the Kamsar shipping port. In 1981, 8.8 million tons were shipped.

The world's newest diamond mine was recently completed by the joint venture Societe Mixte Aredor-Guinee S.A. It is located in the Kissidougou Banakor area near the Sierra Leone border. Under this project, Kloeckner-Humboldt-Deutz AG (KHD) of Cologne was awarded a contract for delivery and installation of a diamond ore processing plant. The mine's annual capacity is estimated at 250,000 carats and 90 percent of the diamonds are expected to be gem quality. The total investment amounted to about \$80 million which was also the initial estimated cost.

Shareholders in this joint venture are the Guinean government and the Australian company Aredor Holdings with 50 percent each. Aredor Holdings in turn includes Australia's Bridge Oil Company with 79.2 percent, the International Finance Corporation (IFC) of the World Bank with 11.3 percent, the Industrial

the Industrial Diamond Company of London with 5 percent, the Bankers Trust Company of New York with 3.5 percent and Simonius, Vischer & Co. of Basel, Switzerland with 1 percent. The British firm Wyseplan recently was awarded a contract worth one million pounds sterling to supply 40 prefabricated Villaspace houses in which to lodge the foreign technical personnel.

The international joint venture, Societe des Mines de Fer de Guinee pour l'Exploitation des Monts Nimba (Mifergui-Nimba) is interested in mining iron ore in the Nimba Mountains. In addition to the Guinean government, which has a 50 percent interest in this venture, other shareholders include the government of Nigeria (via the Associated Ores Mining Company of Lagos), the Libyan Arab Foreign Investment Company of Tripoli (Libya), the Algerian state-owned Sonarem of Algiers, the United States Steel Corporation of Pittsburgh, the Instituto Nacional de Industria (INI) of Madrid, Spain, the Japan Mifergui Corporation of Tokyo and two French firms, the Societe Lorraine et Meridionale de Laminage Continu (Solmer) and the Union Siderurgique du Nord et de l'Est de la France (Usinor), both of Paris. In the summer of 1983 the World Bank received an application for a loan (of approx. \$50 million) for this project.

In January 1984 the International Development Association (IDA) granted an \$8 million loan to promote exploration for crude oil in Guinea. Canada's Petro Canada International Assistance Corporation has a \$3.6 million interest in this project which is devoted primarily to seismic investigations in two offshore areas and geophysical exploration of the Bowe basin on the mainland.

Guinea is also trying to realize the Aye-Koye bauxite project. In connection with this project they want to build another alumina plant (1 million tons annually) and later a smelter for producing raw aluminum. In order to provide the necessary power a hydroelectric dam must be built on the Konkoure in Souapiti. The necessary bauxite (5 million tons annually) is no longer to be supplied by the Aye-Koye project as originally planned, but rather will come from the Sangaredi franchise of the above-mentioned CBG. The total investment will come to about \$3 billion. The necessary funds for this project have not yet been obtained. As per their contract with the Guinean government and a consortium of six Arab nations, the Schweizerische Aluminium AG (Alusuisse) of Chippis/Zurich has already completed a feasibility study for the project which now must be brought up to date. Also with the aid of Alusuisse, the state-owned Societe Guineenne de Fabrication (Soguifab) in Conakry has built a factory for manufacturing household goods, doors and windows of aluminum.

In addition to the loan mentioned above for expansion of the Conakry harbor, the African Development Bank provided an additional 15.03 million accounting units for the cultivation in the Kouroussa region of Kenaf, the hard fibers of which are used in the production of cloth sacks. At the end of 1983, the French national Central Fund for Economic Cooperation (CCCE) of Paris made available a loan in the amount of 43 million French francs

for modernization and expansion of the electrical distribution network in Conakry. The French firm CEM-Systemes SCAM, which is part of the Compagnie Electromecanique (CEM), replaced two turbine generator sets (of 6300 kVA each) at the Grandes Chutes hydroelectric plant. The firm Coyne et Bellier of Paris was awarded the consulting contract for this project.

12552

CSO: 3420/24

DEFENSE, NATIONAL SECURITY BUDGETS FOR 1984 DETAILED

Paris AFRIQUE DEFENSE in French No 72, Mar 84 pp 44-45

[Text] The general operating budget (BGF) for 1984 has been set at 428.85 billion CFA francs rather than the 445.1 billion CFA francs originally planned (a drop of 3.65 percent), compared to 435.25 billion CFA francs in 1983. Among other appropriations, it includes the following:

Ministry of Defense and Civic Service

The total credits to be administered by this ministry amount to 30,725.5 million CFA francs, compared to 29,056.6 million in 1983.

Titles II and III (administration and departmental funds) total 26,999.12 million CFA francs (26,431.9 million in 1983), distributed as follows: 21,328.6 million (21,115.4 million in 1983) for personnel, including 879.8 million for pay and 20,448.785 million for daily allowances (6,368.8 million for the army, 1,516.7 million for the air force, 9,050 million for the gendarmerie, 1,302 million for the Presidential Guard and militia, and 2,124.6 million for the Civic Service), and 5,670.6 million for equipment operation (5,316.5 million in 1983), including 249.25 million for equipment and 5,421.4 million for operation (704.8 million for the army, 2,279.8 million for the air force, 427.4 million for the National Gendarmerie, 46 million for the Presidential Guard and militia, and 73.7 million for the Civic Service).

The equipment credit (249.25 million, up by 13 million over 1983), of which 49.25 million are earmarked for major building repairs, includes 60 million for the procurement of bedding, camping and other supplies, 50 million for weapons, engineering, and signaling, 80 million for the firefighters (one firetruck for 46 million, one ambulance for 23 million, and firefighting equipment for 11 million), and 10 million for data processing equipment (disk storage units and so on).

The operation credit (5,421.4 million) includes 53.179 million for office supplies, 717.669 million for technical supplies (the largest items being weapons, munitions, gear, and so on (180 million CFA francs), the GATL [Transport and Liaison Air Group] at the Port-Bouet airfield (181 million) and the GATL in Bouake (102 million)), 1,165.3 million for clothing (the Quartermaster Department alone is receiving 1,100 million to purchase military uniforms, while

the firefighters will receive 49.21 million), 130.608 million for the maintenance of premises, materiel, and furniture, 1,664.85 million for vehicle maintenance (the Ministry of Defense and Civic Service alone is administering 55 percent of the total credits under Titles II and III of the BGF, and its appropriation is up by 199 million CFA francs, or 13.6 percent, the largest items being those related to maintenance of the GATL aircraft at Port-Bouet (780.33 million CFA francs) and Bouake (476.63 million), the army or FANCI [National Armed Forces of Ivory Coast] (139.76 million), the National Gendarmerie (111 million), and the firefighting service (79.57 million)), 1,373.17 million for fuels and lubricants (the Ministry of Defense and Civic Service is receiving 30 percent of the BGF's appropriation, allocated in the same way as for vehicle maintenance: 717.93 million for the GATL, 250 million for the National Gendarmerie, 192.97 million for FANCI, and 102.29 million for the firefighters), and 302.994 million for miscellaneous expenditures.

Title IV (joint expenses) shows an amount of 3,700 million CFA francs for materiel, compared to 2,600 million in 1983. This concerns leases.

Title V (transfers) totals 26.53 million CFA francs (compared to 24.79 million in 1983), including 20.90 million for personnel and 5.63 million for materiel on behalf of the National Veterans Office.

Concerning manpower for 1984, it should be noted that 529 budgeted positions have been created, including 46 for the cabinet, 244 for central administration, 116 for the army, 81 for the air force, 35 for the National Gendarmerie, and 7 for the Presidential Guard and militia. Technical assistance consists of 31 persons.

Ministry of Maritime Affairs

The total credits to be administered by this ministry, which is responsible for the merchant marine and the navy, amount to 3,520.2 million CFA francs, compared to 3,282 million in 1983.

Titles II and III (administration and departmental funds) total 2,013.735 million CFA francs (1,928.3 million in 1983). That amount is broken down as follows: 1,365.3 million (1,375.5 million in 1983) for personnel, including 171.3 million for pay and 1,194 million for daily allowances (food and compensation for the military), and 648.4 million for equipment operation (552.8 million in 1983), including 100 million for equipment (this consists of the second installment for reinforcing the river banks at the Locodjoro Naval Base in Abidjan), 9.527 million for office supplies, 45.783 million for technical supplies, 85.93 million for clothing, 183.08 million for vehicle maintenance (over 58 million more than in 1983, the increase being necessary to enable ships to make the short sea trips required by their duties), and 213.54 million for fuels and lubricants.

Title IV (joint expenses) totals 400 million CFA francs, compared to 300 million in 1983. This concerns leases.

Title V (transfers) totals 1,108.4 million CFA francs, compared to 1,053.7 million in 1983.

Concerning manpower for 1984, it should be noted that 131 budgeted positions have been created, none of which is for the navy. Technical assistance consists of 39 persons.

Ministry of Interior

The total credits to be administered by this ministry amount to 12,684.412 million CFA francs, compared to 14,015.1 million in 1983.

Titles II and III (administration and departmental funds) total 8,452.003 million CFA francs (9,569.3 million in 1983). That total is broken down as follows: 6,634.7 million (7,280 million in 1983) for personnel, including 6,506.4 million for pay and 128.265 million for daily allowances, and 1,817.338 million for equipment operation (2,289.3 million in 1983), including 135.079 million for office supplies, 89.604 million for technical supplies, 86.21 million for clothing, 101.709 million for the maintenance of premises, materiel, and furniture, 200.491 million for vehicle maintenance, 457.38 million for fuels and lubricants, and 690.357 million for miscellaneous expenditures. The last-named item is concerned mainly with central administration in the interior (443 million CFA francs) and municipal administrations in the interior (197 million CFA francs). The assignment of credit totals 1,563.565 million CFA francs.

Title V (transfers) totals 4,232.412 million CFA francs, compared to 4,445.76 million in 1983.

Concerning manpower for 1984, it should be noted that 4,901 budgeted positions have been created.

Ministry of Internal Security

The total credits to be administered by this ministry amount to 10,790.2 million CFA francs, compared to 9,953.1 million in 1983.

Titles II and III (administration and departmental funds) total 10,675.194 million CFA francs (9,830.9 million in 1983). The total is broken down as follows: 9,600.49 million (8,792.9 million in 1983) for personnel, including 9,620.7 million for pay and 69.79 million for daily allowances, and 984.7 million for equipment operation (1,038 million in 1983), including 8.37 million for food, 342.3 million for office supplies, 97.678 million for technical supplies, 425.91 million for clothing (gear for police cadets and officers), and 200.63 million for fuels and lubricants.

Title V (transfers) totals 115 million CFA francs for equipment, compared to 122.2 million in 1983, to be used for gathering intelligence, economic information, and information on narcotics. The assignment of credit totals 33.036 million.

Concerning manpower for 1984, it should be noted that 5,602 budgeted positions have been created, including 5,282 for the Criminal Investigation Police. Technical assistance consists of 11 persons.

Ministry of Economy and Finance

Transfers and participations (1,024 million CFA francs, or 288.5 million more than in 1983) are being increased to allow for the actual expenditures expected in 1984 and, in particular, insurance on GATL aircraft (290 million CFA francs).

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CSO: 3419/579

CANDIDATES BIDE TIME UNTIL LIFTING OF BAN ON POLITICS

London AFRICA NOW in English Apr 84 p 22

[Excerpts]

Already a few names are being bandied around for the Presidency of Liberia. Top of the list is Head of State Samuel Doe who, as a master-sergeant in the Liberian army, led fellow soldiers in the overthrow of the civilian regime of President William Tolbert on April 12, 1980.

In the process of dismantling the 110-year control of the country by the True Whig Party, Tolbert and about a dozen other top Cabinet Ministers and party officials were executed. The new rulers then pledged to return Liberia to civilian rule in 1985.

It is becoming increasingly likely that when civilian elections are held the soldiers will be around in one form or another. Last January when Doe was presented with the draft constitution, PRC spokesman Brigadier-General Jeffred Gbatu told the Liberian leader that if the people wanted him to seek the Presidency, he should not turn down their wishes.

Doe reiterated the PRC's commitment to return the country to democracy. He, however, made it clear that "while the PRC will honour its pledges, it will not remain insensitive to the wishes of the Liberian people in determining the destiny of the country."

Soon, delegations from Kru Coast and Sasstown territories were calling on Doe to run for the Presidency. They made it clear that they would seek Doe's "approval for your name to be carried on Kru Coast Territory's ballot as the only Presidential candidate of our choice . . ."

It is to be expected that more delegations from all parts of the country will be making a similar call to Doe in the next few months. But the call by the delegations from Kru

Coast and Sasstown was highly irregular because it was made before the ban is lifted on politics. Doe himself has been very hard on anyone who was trying to jump the gun by making premature political declarations.

It was, therefore, with keen interest that Liberians watched the progress of the Special Commission on Elections headed by former roving ambassador Emmett Harmon. The registration of voters was scheduled for March 1 but this did not take place because, according to commission executive secretary Casselia Stewart, only 12 of the 15 co-ordinators selected from the various political sub-divisions turned up for training. This would be rectified soon.

While Doe is counting on resolutions to ask him to contest the Presidency, other prospective candidates are biding their time until the ban on politics is lifted. There are speculations that a MOJA/PPP (Progressive People's Party) alliance would emerge, thus providing a formidable opposition to Doe and his supporters. Doe will then have to contend with the likes of Gabriel Baccus Matthews, Oscar Quiah, Dr Henry Boima Fahnbulleh, Dr Amos Sawyer, Dr Togba Nah Tipoteh and Professor Dew Tuan-Wleh Mayson, all of whom served the PRC in one capacity or the other but fell out with the regime.

What about the deposed True Whig Party? Will it remain in limbo? There is talk that it will be revived and names such as Ellen Sirleaf, former Finance Minister who is now working for the World Bank in Nairobi, and erstwhile Justice Minister Winston Tubman now a practising lawyer, are being mentioned as prospective leaders of the party ●

AGRICOM STUDIES AGRICULTURAL MARKETING PROBLEMS IN VARIOUS PROVINCES

Beira DIARIO DE MOCAMBIQUE in Portuguese, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 Apr 84

[Five-part article by Ezequiel Mavota]

[9 Apr 84 p 4]

[Text] Nearly 23,000 tons of various farm products were marketed during 1983 in Niassa Province. Noteworthy among these products were the corn purchases, amounting to 15,700 tons, or 200 fewer than the index established as a goal.

In fact, Niassa Province has assumed a genuinely vanguard position with respect to marketed production volume, and the efforts to organize the work in this area which, after all, is the starting point at which the population's participation in agricultural production may be gaged from a relative standpoint.

1983 was for Niassa a year of consolidation of the indexes that this province had already been attaining during previous years. In 1983, the goals for purchases of sunflowers and cassava were far exceeded, by volumes in excess of 100 percent.

Product	Goal	Achieved	Percentage
Corn	15,900 tons	15,700 tons	98%
Beans	3,300 "	2,066 "	68%
Sunflowers	2,590 "	2,675 "	103%

These are only a few of the data relating to the leading products of which Niassa Province is an excellent producer.

During 1983, Niassa Province also marketed considerable amounts of cassava, Rhine potatoes, rice and mapira. One particularly interesting feature during the course of the marketing campaign in Niassa Province last year is the fact that the volume of products marketed outside the plan increased.

This means that AGRICOM [Agricultural Products Marketing Company] is not confined merely to purchasing products in the plan, but is also buying all the others that exist in its area of activity. For example, 153 tons of wheat, 86

of dried fish, 50 of sweet potatoes, 20 of watermelon, 108 of soybeans and 15 of onions were bought from the population; and, for the first time, 400 tons of bananas were purchased from the latter.

In an interview with the news service, AGRICOM's provincial delegate in Niassa said that the excessive rainfall during the seeding for the first period, and the lack of it during that of the second period, caused imbalances in the agricultural campaign, which had repercussions on the volume of products purchased. He also said that another problem contributing to the failure to attain all the goals was the late arrival of bags for packaging the products.

"At the critical time of marketing, we have to collect products in bulk and remove them. We have as much as almost 2,500 tons of bulk corn in the threshing and drying areas and, since the rainy season is approaching, we have to remove them to safe locations. We do not receive the bags until October, and then we manage to solve some of the problems."

Also contributing to the reduction in volumes of production marketed was the arrival of the evacuees from "Operation Production," because the population "has to feed its guests," remarked AGRICOM's delegate in Niassa.

Supply and Removal

In connection with the products for supply, 1983 showed a certain amount of improvement in comparison with 1982. Just as in the case of the other provinces of the country, this one received large amounts of imported clothing, in addition to farm implements of native manufacture.

As we said at the outset, Niassa Province, for the first time, marketed considerable volumes of bananas during 1983 and, as the AGRICOM delegate remarked, "they were even consumed by monkeys here." Of the 400 tons that were purchased, 100 were sent to Maputo, 30 to Nampula, and 15 to Quelimane; and the rest were consumed in the province.

As the AGRICOM delegate remarked: "The first experience of selling bananas to the public proved that they are a means for improving the nutritional diet."

He also added that the first year of the marketing of this product had evoked a certain amount of interest among the population in the planting and care of banana plantations. Moreover, since bananas are a product that spoils easily, their marketing has required of AGRICOM a better organization from the standpoint of transportation and even work efficiency.

During 1983, the process of inter-district and inter-provincial removal improved considerably in Niassa. The province was reinforced with eight tractors and five more vehicles coming from Nampula. There was a total of 23 vehicles available for the entire period, and under AGRICOM's control for the campaign to remove the marketed farm products. Combined with this was the by now famous tradition of "removal weekends" in Niassa, making the campaign a genuine success.

The AGRICOM delegate in Niassa said that the rate of removal was far better in 1983, because "we succeeded in removing all the products from the fixed stations before the rainfall."

[10 Apr 84, pp 4, 7]

[Text] Recent data indicate that Nampula Province (the country's largest cashew nut producer) had, by the end of February of this year, marketed more than 15,000 tons of this product, an index exceeding that for the same period last year by 3,000 tons.

The volume of cashews already purchased in Nampula is less than have that in the plans originally set (38,100 tons), although it may be expected that, by the end of the campaign, a total of nearly 20,000 tons may be achieved. These rather low figures are far removed from conforming to the real production capacity of Nampula, which until quite recently had registered an average of 78,000 tons of cashews marketed per year.

As for the marketing of grains, the province only managed to purchase more rice than had been planned, raising the goal of 1,474 tons by another 262. As for mapira, cassava, corn, peanuts, sunflowers, sesame and beans, the marketing indexes fluctuated between 15 and 78 percent.

The most notorious instance is that of peanuts which, year after year, have shown marked reductions. By way of comparison, during 1981 4,000 tons of that product were purchased. In 1982, the total was 1,400 tons; and, quite surprisingly, in 1983 594 tons out of a goal set at 4,046 were purchased.

According to Diogo Margarido, AGRICOM's delegate in Nampula, the first major conditioning factor for the 1983 campaign was the irregularity of the rainfall, which upset production. "The little that we achieved was due to a great effort on the part of both the population and the Armed Forces of Mozambique, who played a critical role in the marketing campaign."

Quality of the Seed

Furthermore, the quality of the seed distributed at the beginning of every agricultural campaign is very far removed from guaranteeing good results in production, and even in marketing. To ensure higher production and marketing indexes for peanuts in the future, it will be necessary to consider importing improved seed promptly; because Nampula has all the requisites for developing peanut growing.

It should also be noted that the problem of purchasing peanuts from the population in Nampula has led to the need for greater control over the so-called "parallel market," in other words, the "speculation." Just as in the case of the purchase of cassava, AGRICOM's ability to buy more peanuts has become increasingly lessened; because it has strong competitors willing to pay any price for these products, which are so necessary to the supply.

With regard to the seed, a source associated with AGRICOM in Nampula remarked last November (a time when these poor results were already in evidence) that the low agricultural production was due to the quality of the seed sold to the peasants; which caused a reduced yield from the crops.

Another matter is the poor control of the distribution of seed on the district level, which in many instances causes the seed that has been delivered to be allocated for consumption. The AGRICOM delegate in Nampula himself said during the interview that, in fact, there is no control over the distribution of this seed. "We only deliver the seed to guarantee that something will be planted."

Products for Supply

During 1983, the distribution of products for supplying the marketing throughout Nampula Province was better. AGRICOM has direct action in the areas with the greatest needs, where the population (for lack of clothing) even wears sacks. Just as in the case of Niassa, the province is supplied with imported clothing and farm implements, the amount of which "has been satisfactory," and this has a very special impact on the population.

However, despite the fact that the supply of products of prime necessity improved considerably in 1983, the volume of products was lower than that attained in 1982. In the case of Nampula, one of the most crucial problems underlying these reductions in indexes and prices is the fact that for some products, particularly sunflowers, there is no compensation.

The problem is that, during the past 2 years, there has been a rise in the costs of transportation, which was not in keeping with the purchase price given to the producer. As the AGRICOM delegate in Nampula stated: "In this instance, the dealer's participation declines, because he is not interested in losing money."

He described the case of a dealer in Erati: "In Erati, where we have a dealer who bought nearly 1,000 tons of sunflowers in 1982, we have had problems, because he did not participate last year. He claimed that the prices were not compensatory." With the fuel alone, used to reach Nacala (the delivery station for the product), an average of 1.99 MT is left from a kilogram of sunflowers, and later the margins do not help.

The purchase price for sunflowers to the producer is 11.50 MT; that is, on the spot. At the door of the seller's warehouse the cost is 12.30 MT, and At the door of the district warehouse, it is 13 meticals. When the producer manages to take the product to the factory door, he receives 14.70 MT per kilogram.

Although the prices are not favorable (according to some dealers), there are however others who still prefer to sell the product at the factory door.

Transportation Difficulties

For the inter-district removal of agricultural marketing products, another problem that has been posed is the lack of facilities on the part of dealers. The latter have shown a certain amount of interest in delivering the products to the site established as a central warehouse.

Nevertheless, the lack of vehicles has made it difficult to attain that goal. Moreover, this problem has caused the dealer not to leave his own work area or even his shop. As a result, the population is forced to store products and deliver to any purchaser who shows up. In essence, the problem is a matter of supply capacity on the part of those shops. The peasant, realizing that he must barter products in a shop that is 10 kilometers from his home, will by no means be interested in covering that distance merely to seek money.

Nampula Province, through the port of Nacala, is the collection center for products coming from Niassa, Cabo Delgado and even Zambezia. The major problems in this process lie in the capacity of the railroad line running to the port of Nacala. Derailments have been constant and the damage to goods even greater. Last year, 40 tons of corn coming from Niassa arrived in that port completely spoiled.

From what we learned from the AGRICOM delegate, the situation in Nampula is now tending to improve, after certain control mechanisms were introduced. He said that the system consists of the following: On the site of a batch of goods, a member of AGRICOM and one from CFM are responsible for checking and confirming the goods; something that is done in the same way at the reception station as well.

According to Diogo Margarido, the AGRICOM delegate in Nampula, "This system for assigning responsibility has been giving satisfactory results."

[11 Apr 84, p 4]

[Text] In the final document from the recent meeting of AGRICOM's Extended Administration, one reads: "In a preliminary evaluation of the marketing results for 1983, an overall decline is noted in the volume of products marketed, in comparison with 1982. The activity of the AGRICOM enterprise is reflected in the overall reduction noted, with the purchase of smaller amounts of farm products than during the previous year."

The document states that, insofar as this enterprise's participation in the total amount marketed is concerned, an increase has been found, wherein it rose from 36 percent in 1982 to 40 percent in 1983.

During the course of the campaign that has ended, the supply of consumer products improved, specifically in the area of farm implements and ready-made clothing. There was an increase in AGRICOM's activity in the purchase of garden produce in Niassa, Tete, Zambezia and Cabo Delgado Provinces.

The lack of transportation in Zambezia, Niassa and Tete provinces is noted, among other problems upsetting the campaign.

Another significant aspect during the course of the 1983 campaign was AGRICOM's participation in the distribution of corn to meet the need caused by the drought situation, having moved over 10,000 tons of this product in Gaza and Manica Provinces. The organizational problems that cropped up during the 1983 campaign were caused by the lack of trained cadres on the enterprise level, particularly in the commercial and transportation sectors.

According to the final document from the AGRICOM meeting, the drought in the southern and central sections of the country, and the activity of the armed groups that have contributed to a deterioration in the enterprise's material assets and to an inadequacy of consumer products going to the rural areas still remain as the main problems affecting an increase in marketing levels; although there has been notable improvement in the latter respect.

Internally, there is still poor management and control of human resources and transportation in the enterprise, and a meager capacity has been noted for bringing other participants into the marketing operations, specifically, in cooperative and private trading in the rural areas.

Prospects for 1984

AGRICOM's internal plan for 1984 calls for considerable increases in the indexes of marketed production over 1983. In its commercial forecast for this year, AGRICOM predicts the purchase of 93,000 tons of products, in contrast to 62,000 marketed in 1982.

The indexes established for this year, slightly higher than those for 1983, will require a greater effort on the part of the enterprise's fundamental sectors, whose operation was analyzed in detail for the first time.

[12 Apr 84, p 4]

[Text] As was to be expected, the provinces hard hit by the drought (Gaza, Inhambane, Sofala, Manica and Tete) again showed poor results in marketing during 1983, stemming from an agricultural campaign (1982-83) affected by this disaster. Added to this factor were overall difficulties in marketing, namely, the shortage of fuel and of transportation facilities, and problems associated with the supply of products for barter.

For example, in Manica, the drought caused the population to have virtually nothing to turn over for marketing, because, in fact, they had no surpluses.

This province, as well as the others struck by the drought, has a tradition of good corn crops, a product which, in addition to its commercial value, is also used for food in these regions. However, as a result of these circumstances, Manica Province has started registering marketing averages that do not exceed 600 tons of corn per year. It should be recalled that, in normal situations, Manica used to attain averages in excess of 3,000 tons.

The relationship that exists between the delivery of the product by the peasant and the reception of salt, soap, oil and petroleum supplied by AGRICOM lies in this population's fundamental need for survival. This means that when the peasant agrees to deliver the little that he has, he really needs to receive the products that he himself cannot produce.

Another problem relating to this process is AGRICOM's capacity for responding to this need among the peasants. Manica Province receives the products assigned for supplies via Sofala, as everyone is well aware. But, according to Alberto de Sousa, AGRICOM's delegate in that province, "As long as a month goes by without our even receiving a bag of sugar. The difficulties with access routes are another cause for delay."

The products reach the province 2 or 3 months after the campaign begins. For example, if these products arrive in September, it means that the marketing campaign is hurt in its entirety. Speculation occurs as a result of this situation. The speculators even purchase a bag of corn for 3 contos, and the peasants are unwilling to have AGRICOM purchase a kilogram for 6.50 MT.

As we learned, the few deliveries of farm products made by the peasants in Manica are confined to a mere direct barter; in other words, product for product.

The Situation in Tete

For Tete Province, although the situation does not appear different from that in Manica, the drought, which has been assuming alarming proportions, is not allowing for good work in this area.

"It is our intention, first of all, to have the products marketed on the necessary sites; that is, in the district capitals." This comment was made by Adolfo Mocambique, AGRICOM's delegate in Tete, while discussing the prospects for the marketing campaign which officially starts in May throughout the entire country.

He also said that the enterprise's operational mechanisms would be improved, aimed at a greater accrual of surpluses from the population. According to Adolfo Mocambique, the actual attainment of this goal necessarily entails the timely marketing of salt, soap, petroleum and sugar in the areas with the largest production.

Commenting briefly on AGRICOM's effort in 1983, he claimed: "A good job was done in the purchasing of potatoes from Angonia. The coordinating systems that have been introduced enabled us in the family sector to purchase and remove all the potatoes that showed up in the district capital."

To prompt the delivery of the few products obtained from production, AGRICOM in Gaza decided to move products between districts; in other words, it saw to it that it was possible, within the province itself, to find products which there was an interest in marketing. Hence, clay pots, fish and other items were marketed.

These products are acquired locally, and taken to other areas where they are not produced. Faquir Bay, the AGRICOM delegate in Gaza, remarked: "They have been greatly accepted, and have contributed largely to the barter."

For this year, there are plans to move 31,000 units of clay items and nearly 230 tons of watermelon, pineapple and fish, to support the marketing. Included in this year's plan for Gaza is the sale of 50,000 posts to aid the peasants who are building their own houses in the province's communal villages.

In the overall count, the status of production and marketing in the areas affected by the drought continues to be bad. The marketing levels attained in these areas reflect the need for the population to acquire other products that it requires for its consumption; because, in fact, there are no surpluses.

[13 Apr 84, p 4]

[Text] "This enterprise has management problems. In the domestic trade system, this is perhaps the only one that has had a high degree of damage." We are quoting the state secretary of supply, Francisco Masquil, in speaking at the close of the last meeting of AGRICOM's Expanded Administration Council.

The problems involved in agricultural marketing exist on two levels: the general situation and the enterprise's internal problems.

The general problems lie, first of all, in the transportation capacity, associated with the lack of supplementary equipment, fuel, spare parts and even access routes.

In the commercial area, the problems lie in the price changes and the distribution of the commercial system throughout the entire country. There are instances wherein the areas with the largest production are totally devoid of any commercial establishment. In the final analysis, this situation benefits the parallel market.

On the other hand, there is also evidence of declines in agricultural production in the so-called planned sectors, and even of the gradual disappearance of certain products that are considered basic for marketing. Year after year, peanut production has been registering very low levels. Sesame and beans do not escape that rule.

At the present time, there is little activity in the area of motivating the population to extract beeswax, which is an export product, castor oil, sugar cane juice and even piripiri.

The initiatives that have been taken to select and improve seed are praiseworthy, but the fact is that this effort has not met the real, current requirements for agricultural production.

A reliable source associated with the commercial system commented: "If anyone should give us corn seed now, we would store it, because it is not necessary." However, what happens in storage is the invasion of funguses, and there are no products for the proper treatment of that. When seed-planting time comes, this corn is spoiled. Thus, one realizes, because it is very clear, that marketing is not a task for the Ministry of Home Trade alone; it is also incumbent on the agricultural, transportation, industrial, roads and even informational sectors.

The proper coordination of efforts among all these sectors will be the best means of stimulating the peasants' production, and educating them for the country's prosperity and development.

Management Difficulties

It is a fact that the coordination of efforts "is the secret of success." Nevertheless, there are problems that can be surmounted in this area. AGRICOM's internal problems lie in its essential management. When there is no scheduling of maintenance for the vehicles used for removal, when there is no movement of the goods assigned for marketing, the problems are of a different type.

However, despite these "whys?", a very noteworthy effort is being made to put things in the locations where they belong. The "dead time" in the agricultural marketing campaigns is almost "dead." During the past year, AGRICOM has started purchasing various types of products. The figures indicate that this undertaking has raised the number from 10 to 35 almost all over the country.

This type of thing is intended to occupy the workers all year long, and to demand greater responsibilities of them; because, if the matter is clearly understood, people always have to eat, industry needs raw material and we need to export.

The training and retraining of cadres which are a general practice in the enterprise is a worthwhile contribution to the improvement of their managerial capacity. The concern for providing the enterprise with the resources required for its activity is, after all, the concern for stimulating and attaching value to the production of thousands of peasants in our country.

2909

CSO: 3442/339

POLITICAL PARTIES' STANDS ON SECULARISM NOTED

Dakar WAL FADJRI in French No 5, Apr 84 pp 7, 8

[Article by Sidi Lamine Niass]

[Text] For some time now Islam has been at the center of events. Already the economic crisis has worsened and become generalized; despair and deprivation are the daily lot of youth, who are sinking into crime, alcoholism, debauchery, drug addiction, and juvenile delinquency.

Those scourges are growing; what has the future in store for us? What is to be done to lead our country out of the impasse? That debate now preoccupies the 15 political parties existing in Senegal, but also troubles certain circles outside those political parties. We shall try to analyze the positions of the various Senegalese political parties on the question of Islam.

We make a clear and precise judgment only with respect to those political parties which have expressed themselves clearly and precisely on that question, which means three of them: the Socialist Party (PS), National Democratic Rally (RND), and Peoples' Liberation Party (PLP).

Other political parties have yet to declare themselves on the problems of Islam, but their positions appear imprecise to us, and we do not wish to make superficial analyses. At the time, of course, we valued the And Jef-MRDN [expansion unknown] conference on Islam and the class struggle, a theme discussed by Prof Abdoulaye Ly.

We note also that in Senegal no leader of Marxist background as yet calls himself an atheist. The African Independence Party (PAI), through its secretary general Majmoult Diop, declares "one can be a Marxist and a Moslem." The Democratic League-Workers' Party Movement (LDMPT) has been represented at meetings by imams. The Independence and Labor Party (PIT) numbers Arabic scholars among its militants. And the MRS [Senegalese Republican Movement] declares it is religiously inspired.

But those varied attitudes seem to relate to an attempted use of the Islamic phenomenon as a means to seize power. Thus we note in several speeches such statements as: "a true Moslem must be a revolutionary," or "there are positive aspects in Islam."

For more than a year the militant Moslem offensive has posed the problem of secularism as the issue of a national debate. Public opinion has challenged the Senegalese "state" and all those who seek to direct that "state."

The Socialist party in power, through its secretary general, President Abdou Diouf, proposes a definition by stating that "secularism is neither atheism nor antireligious propaganda Secularism has the specific purpose of restoring religion to its proper vocation by freeing it from the tutelage of temporal power" And he adds that "for my part, I shall oppose all sectarianism harmful to economic and social progress, to understanding, to brotherhood, and to peace among the Senegalese." (LE SOLEIL, 31 Dec 83-1 Jan 84, p 13)

The RND, through its secretary general Cheikh Anta Diop, has also been clear in stating the RND is not a party that plays with religion. "If any intellectual whomsoever should venture to do so, he will have to think of the consequences. Religion is one thing, politics another The Senegalese people would deceive the world by indulging in religious discrimination, since our constitution enjoins that all sensibilities be allowed for." And he added that "the RND, which defends the principle of the secular state, would reproach itself for religious discrimination." (LE SOLEIL, 16 Mar 84 p 4)

The PLP, through its secretary general Maitre Babacar Niang, takes a more serene view of the Islamic question. Facing the press on the question of the PLP's attitude toward "the rise of integrism in Senegal," Maitre Niang made a few quips which quickly caused the intellectuals present to reflect on the very notion of "integrism."

"I leafed through the dictionary," he said, "and saw 'integre and integralite, but not 'integrisme'. The hopes of the Islamic movement are a phenomenon which we of the PLP will gain from analyzing calmly. We ought not to throw stones at those who wish to Islamize a regime, provided it is accepted that others may espouse secularism." (LE SOLEIL 13 Mar 84 p 2)

Varied Motives

What explains the position of each of those political parties? For the most part, their motives are in no way similar.

The Socialist party is the governing party, and defends its "state" interests. Since Senghor it has always striven to recapture the Islamic movement in order to build a certain base of creditility among the masses. Its intelligent rapprochement with religious leaders is a tactic accompanied by strong intoxication and close control. Ultimately it saps Moslem religious authority by causing certain marabouts to adopt antipopular positions.

"They" use Islam and its princes the better to destroy it.

The RND, back in the news since 15 March 1984, has a "courageous" position of hostility to the Islamic upsurge. It reflects the feelings of a few acculturated intellectuals who are really afraid of Islam, which asserts itself daily in Senegal as a determining force in political life. But many of them know nothing of Islam as a renewing and purifying force. So the RND leadership clearly took its stand in the secularist camp.

The PLP is the youngest Senegalese political party, though its leader Maitre Babacar Niang has a long militant past. The party's position on the Islamic question seems to derive from long experience and solid political maturity. And indeed, the grave political and economic situation affecting our country no longer allows a margin for errors of judgment.

For our part at WAL FADJIRI, in our role as observers, we simply note that the upsurge of the Islamic movement is a phenomenon of our time which eludes our simple human analyses.

Secularism is but the decoy used by those who wish to build a society without God.

Western alternatives have gone bankrupt, nationalism and all the other "isms" created a momentary illusion, but that is over. The truth was bound to emerge, and for five years the world has wavered inexorably before the Islamic tidal wave.

For our people, with its Islamic majority, the solution of the crisis thus rests in the application of the majority will, without minority bullying, for a regime of justice--of the best justice.

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NEW LABOR CONFEDERATION TO BE FORMED

Dakar WAL FADJRI in French No 5, Apr 84 pp 10, 11

/Interview with labor leader Alioune Sow by Youssoupha Ndiaye; date and place not specified/

/Text/Question/ The time of renewed CNTS /National Confederation of Senegalese Workers/ is a long way off. We are now at a stage of purges of which you are one of the first victims. But what really motivates this exclusion, apart from the official version given by Madia Diop?

/Answer/ It is very simple. Madia is a dictator. He wants a domesticated confederation, and we alone resist him within the confederation. That is the real reason for our exclusion.

To cite the official version, largely echoed by LE SOLEIL, we are generally reproached for having distributed tracts at the time of the international symposium on "The African Worker and the World Crisis" held at the Teranga Hotel.

In making his complaint Madia forgets that back in 1981 he himself distributed tracts from RENOUVEAU at the time of the Geneva ILO conference. That was when he was out to capture the confederation.

Concerning the transfer--the other charge--I would like to point out that this question is involved only when it is a matter of the congress of the confederation seen as a trade union, as legally defined, and so subject to reelection every two years. This in no way excludes the autonomy of the legal personality of professional trade union organizations intended by the lawmaker.

Finally, the chronology of events shows there is still a great conspiracy of a whole confederation against a workers' movement and attitude which has not even had time to catch its breath.

Judge the matter yourselves. On the 14th the executive secretariat met from 9 a. m. to 10 p.m., without a break, and proposed our exclusion. On the 17th it was the confederation local's turn to be summoned behind the

scenes, when it endorsed the decision pronounced by the executive secretariat. And on the 19th, mercenaries were sent to evict us from the labor exchange offices.

Question In the eyes of the law, what interpretation can be given that exclusion decision? Do you not think Madia Diop, the one and only CNTS secretary general, represents legality no matter what is said?

Answer One thing must be understood first of all. Prior to the Confederation there is the union, which is an association of persons endowed with a legal personality. The Confederation is in fact nothing but the link, the instrument of coordination between those different professional trade union organizations, each of which retains its legal autonomy. Then, the law of 1 July 1901, a French law incorporated into the Senegalese statutes, decrees that any exclusion move is the function of the union's congress. And by extension this applicable and must be applied at the Confederation level.

All this leads to the conclusion that Madia has totally violated that law. Moreover, since Madia Diop was elected by the same procedure as I was, that is, at the end of a congress, he cannot jettison me without referring the matter to those who elected us--that is, to the congress.

If he has run counter to the spirit of the laws that govern us, it is because he has succeeded in forcing into submission all responsible figures who had any ministerial or parliamentary ambitions. Nevertheless, the exclusionary measures are null and void, and the law says nothing else.

Question It was generally said in union circles that Babacar Diagne, because of his former service as CNTS secretary general, conferred a certain legitimacy on FROLUDES [expansion unknown]. By voting for the motion to exclude you, does not that former comrade in arms confine you in a position of illegitimacy, for a front that up to now has called itself legalist? Moreover, what in your view motivated so sudden an abandon?

Answer Listen: Babacar Diagne always was a coward and liar. If we happened in the recent past to belong to his clan, that was for two overlapping reasons: first of all, because it was recognized that Madia was not the man cut out to lead a confederation on the scale of the CNTS; secondly, we have always felt a confederation such as the CNTS should not be crammed with cowards and cretins.

By voting for our exclusion Babacar Diagne took a position in conflict with the viewpoints he has always defended since his eviction as the head of the confederation. That vote in no way surprised us, however.

To revert to your first question, I think we have different perceptions of the word "legalist." As we understand it, that simply means that to fight a given dictatorial act we grasp and make use of the legal means made available to us. So from that viewpoint our being cast out by Babacar Diagne does not upset us.

Question After exclusion, what is left for you to do?

Answer You are not unaware that CNTS is affiliated with the Socialist party, and when crises arise within it the party is bound to make a decision through the central committee. I must say the Front is largely disposed to function as a trade union. However, we differentiate between Madia's majority and the party, and it is from that standpoint that we shall refer the matter to the party official responsible for national trade union affairs, who is not yet in office. Meanwhile, FROLUDES continues to lead its life.

Question And if the party disavows you, what would you consider doing?

Answer In that case we are prepared to create another union confederation and withdraw from CNTS. We are in no hurry to depart, however, and so we leave it to the party to make its decision.

Question Do you really believe the motion to exclude you could have crossed Madia Diop's mind if he did not feel protected by the central committee which you just mentioned?

Answer It cannot be ruled out that certain members, who like him formerly belonged to the PRA African Regroupment Party may have endorsed his decision beforehand. What we are sure of is that the central authorities of party and government have learned first hand during his two years in office that Madia is incompetent, greedy, ambitious, and dishonest, and so unworthy of heading the confederation most representative of a class itself the most self-aware in the country. Today the dockers resent his conduct of a veritable raid against unions, which we have denounced in tracts. That was at the time of the election of worker delegates, when two regulations (decrees 67-1350 of 19 December 1967 and 70-181 of February 1970) were flouted with the complicity of a high official, the national labor director and under the unwitting protection of the police forces. We told them that was enough, and we brought charges against SEMPOS Senegalese Port Employers Association, an employers' group, before the justice of the peace (see box) not included.

Question To all appearances, reconciliation before the Socialist party congress is a long way off. Who was the first to breach that peace of the brave?

Answer We had indeed reached reconciliation as enjoined by President Abdou Diouf, secretary general of the party. He had asked me to help him see to it that the confederation functions peaceably until a congress was held, following which the party would guarantee us democracy within it. But when Madia resumed his dictatorial conduct to destabilize our unions by violating regulations, we opposed him with the Front, which can be taken as an attitude of rebellion against dictatorship.

Actually, it is indeed a case of a real political plot orchestrated by a core belonging to the ex-PRA-Senegal.

[Question] In view of the foregoing, you may be thought quick to pillory Madia Diop, the CNTS secretary general. Would you, however, go so far as to say he has no union base, which would be extravagant considering his position and functions in the confederation?

[Answer] Certainly, he has a base, but it is the most uncultivated in existence: the union of women who work in the food industry, a union consisting of the most exploited mass in the working world, as can be learned simply by reading an issue of LE SOLEIL on the food industry.

That is why he can have no means of putting pressure on us. As for the others who wish to sit in the national assembly, they can sell their souls to the Devil with a bad conscience.

Yet the rise of Doudou Ngom should have taught Madia a lesson. It was in fact with the support of a mechanical majority that Doudou Ngom in 1975 excluded Madia and me from the CNTS. Following that arbitrary decision I myself took Madia under my protection by telling him the confederation did not belong to Doudou Ngom.

[Question] Reading our colleague of LE SOLEIL gives the impression it was by military action and under pressure from Renouveau partisans that you were removed from the labor exchange offices. Why such resistance to a decision by the authorities? Is that union discipline?

[Answer] First of all, let us make clear that it was mercenaries in Madia's pay, and not Renouveau militants, who were sent to us. Moreover, we were not driven out by military action, contrary to what LE SOLEIL says. Rather, we consented to leave the exchange because the director of security asked us to help him preserve order and calm until arbitration by the party.

If at first we refused to leave the exchange offices, that is because we considered we were in the right. We defend positions on which the party is obliged to rule. Meanwhile, we are reorganizing our base the better to consolidate it, and especially to inform it, for Madia is able to pass all his messages through official media channels.

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SOUTH AFRICA'S MILITARY ROLE IN ANGOLA REVIEWED

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 8 Apr 84 p 20

[Article by Professor Deon Geldenhuys: "How South Africa Stumbled Into Its Secret War"]

[Text]

THE Lisbon coup d'état on April 25 1974, and the subsequent decision to decolonise Portugal's African empire held profound implications for South Africa.

Well before the colony's independence, South African military intelligence had put out feelers to three liberation movements — MPLA, FNLA and Unita — to try to establish their respective attitudes towards South Africa.

Should the MPLA come to power, military intelligence concluded, South Africa's security interests in Namibia might be seriously jeopardised.

Towards the end of June 1975, the defence force produced a document setting out the implications of alternative courses of action that South Africa could follow towards Angola.

In the process of establishing a restricted military presence immediately north of the border, South African troops came under

fire from Angolan guerrillas.

Defence headquarters in Pretoria and subsequently the Minister of Defence were informed of the attack.

Following consultations with Mr Vorster, Mr P W Botha is said to have instructed the defence force that the attackers should be decisively driven off.

If true, this event had a dual significance: a political decision opening the door to offensive military operations in Angola had been taken, and the two principal (if not the only) political decision-makers who were to control South Africa's military involvement in the Angolan war — codenamed Operation Savannah — were identified.

The Department of Foreign Affairs from the outset found itself largely excluded from decision-making on South Africa's Angolan venture.

Foreign Affairs wanted South Africa to adopt the same "hands-off" attitude it had (ostensibly) displayed when the Portuguese left Mozambique.

The Foreign Ministry's relegation to the sidelines was evidenced by their

hearing of the defence force's first major offensive north of the Angola-Namibia border only when the Portuguese Government handed South Africa's ambassador in Lisbon a note of protest over the action.

The next phase in South Africa's involvement in Angola represented a significant escalation: instructors/advisers and arms were despatched to Unita and the FNLA.

South Africa had entered the Angolan civil war, supporting two of the three belligerents.

It is doubtful whether the full Cabinet was party to the decision.

The crucial question is: What were the political objectives behind the decision to commit South African forces to a foreign war?

What did South Africa hope to achieve by supporting Unita and the FNLA?

If South Africa wanted to prevent the ascendance of a Marxist regime in Luanda and the formation of what Mr Vorster subsequently called "a string of Marxist states across Africa from Angola to Tanzania", how was this to be done?

Was it South Africa's intention to drive the Cubans out of Angola, thus freeing the country from a commu-

nist presence and thereby clear the way for a Unita-FNLA regime in Luanda?

Or did South Africa want to help the anti-communist forces to hold their own against the MPLA and thus promote the chances of a government of national unity?

Or was it Pretoria's intention to help set up a separate Unita-controlled state in Southern Angola — one freed of Swapo?

In the event, not one of these possible objectives was achieved.

What is clear, paradoxically, is that South Africa lacked a clear political objective when it decided to become an active participant in the Angolan civil war.

There were powerful domestic voices raised against South Africa's involvement in the Angolan war, notably from the head of the Bureau for State Security, General H J van den Bergh, and from the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Their reasons for dissenting were different. In military circles a cynical view was taken of General van den Bergh's opposition.

He was bound to oppose most things suggested or undertaken by the defence force, it was said — an indication of the tensions between the two institutions.

Initially General van den Bergh had, however, advised Mr Vorster that South Africa should provide arms to the anti-MPLA movements in Angola.

In due course he came out against further South African participation in the Angolan war.

The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) may well have given him warning about such an eventuality.

Without American logistical backing, he concluded, South Africa could not hope to prosecute the war against the MPLA and Cuban forces successfully.

The Department of Foreign Affairs feared international political repercussions: the Soviet Union might be drawn more deeply into the conflict in response to South Africa's involvement, thus raising the awesome prospect of a South African-Soviet military showdown; South Africa could endanger détente by fighting in a black African state and ran the risk of being branded an aggressor by the OAU and the UN; South Africa's intervention would undermine its oft-declared commitments to the principle of non-interference.

The Foreign Ministry's concerns were overridden by the military's strong agitation for South African military involvement in Angola.

Once a top-level political decision had been taken to commit South African military personnel and arms to the conflict in Angola, the defence force devised a four-phase operational plan for a military offensive.

The phases were progressively more ambitious: phase 4 provided for the capture of Luanda, the ultimate military objective.

The decision to escalate from one phase to another was left to the political decision-makers, Mr Vorster and Mr Botha.

For the day-to-day operational control of the South African involvement in Angola a special committee composed of military chiefs was set up in Pretoria.

Representatives from the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Bureau for State Security were on occasion invited to participate in meetings of the committee.

Their presence may have been little more than symbolic, since the defence force saw the Angolan war as very much its responsibility.

Amid all the operational planning, the political objectives of South Africa's military involvement still remained unclear.

This meant that the political decision-makers were uncertain whether to permit South African forces to proceed from one phase of the four-phase plan to another; more seriously, they may even have been uncertain whether South Africa should continue its military involvement in Angola.

Apart from the lack of clear political direction, the defence force was inhibited by the political leaders' insistence that South African loss of life had to be avoided.

With the Government pretending that its forces were not involved in the Angolan war, it would have been hard put to explain a sudden spate of casualties to the public.

Given these serious deficiencies in political leadership on the one hand and operational exigencies on the other, it is not surprising that military commanders at the front on occasion overstepped the line.

Caught in the momentum of the war, they escalated their actions beyond the point agreed to by the political decision-makers.

It was when the South African forces were executing the third phase of their offensive that the US Senate blocked any further American military involvement in Angola.

This left Pretoria with a crucial political decision: should South African forces be allowed to proceed with phase four of the offensive? Or should they instead begin pulling back?

In the event, a decision in principle was taken in either late December or early January to withdraw the South African forces.

Mr Vorster and Mr Botha were again the two key figures involved. It is quite possible that Dr Hilgard Muller, Minister of Foreign Affairs; General Magnus Malan, Chief of the Defence Force, and others were also present on this occasion.

The troops would, however, remain in Angola until

the OAU summit, it was decided, in the hope that African leaders would help to settle the Angolan conflict in a way agreeable to South Africa and its Angolan allies.

Such, then, was the situation that Mr Vorster early in January, 1976, presented to a startled Cabinet at its first meeting after the long Christmas holiday.

Both Mr Vorster and Mr Botha and also Dr Muller gave Parliament numerous reasons for, and objectives of, South Africa's intervention in the Angolan war.

Most of these may be regarded as *ex post facto* rationalisations.

If the preceding reconstruction of the decision-making process is in essence correct, it reveals profound deficiencies in top-level decision-making on a matter as vital as involvement in a war on foreign soil, as witness the serious miscalculation of American moves and indeed of the American mood.

Did the decision-makers, for example, anticipate the massive Soviet and Cuban support for the MPLA? On a different level, one should mention the Government's failure to consult Parliament.

A little-known fact is that Mr Vorster and Mr Botha had toyed with the idea of convening a special session of Parliament towards the end of 1975 to inform MPs in camera of events in Angola.

They eventually decided against taking Parliament into their confidence for fear of leaks from opposition (specifically PRP) ranks.

It was, however, not only Parliament that was ignored; neither the National Party caucus nor the full Cabinet was consulted or enjoyed the two principal decision-makers' confidence.

Another serious deficiency was the absence of a well-structured process of decision-making.

The various interested parties within the executive branch of government had unequal opportunities for making their views known.

For the most part decisions were taken by the Prime Minister and one other Minister.

Mr Botha, it would appear, was the driving force behind their joint decisions, a man whose strong views more often than not prevailed.

(An extract from "The Diplomacy of Isolation" published by Macmillan for the SA Institute of International Affairs.)

ANC TIES TO SACP ANALYZED

MB070730 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 6 May 84 p 28

[Article by Andrew Prior, senior lecturer in political studies, University of Cape Town: "How Red is the ANC?"]

[Text] The relationship between the African National Congress (ANC) and the South African Communist Party (SACP) is one which has engaged the attention of many observers of South African exile politics.

To what extent is this relationship a marriage of convenience between parties which share a common hostility to apartheid?

Does the SACP have a hidden agenda in its relationship with the ANC? Is the ANC such a dominant partner that it is able to dictate its terms of alliance with the SACP?

The answers to these questions determine a wide range of positions taken towards South African political movements in exile.

Western states are apprehensive of any exile political movement in alliance with communism, and Eastern-bloc countries are assured if exile movements ally themselves with communist parties.

The South African Government uses the communist presence as a device for generating internal support and for soliciting external assistance.

It is well known that the government believes that the ANC is little more than a pawn of Moscow, but liberal opponents of the government in South Africa dismiss this view because they do not like to be associated with virtually any of the government's beliefs.

Western sympathizers with the ANC, who are themselves noncommunist, argue that the ANC is a coalition of different political viewpoints and there is insufficient evidence to assert that the communists have more than marginal influence upon it.

Nobody questions that the SACP and the ANC enjoy close links: but how close are they really? If there any evidence to believe that the communists

control the ANC? And what is likely to be the future of this relationship?

Evidence for communist involvement in the ANC is of two sorts: the staged programmes of the SACP, and the cross-cutting membership between the ANC and SACP AT ITS LEADERSHIP LEVELS.

In its 1962 programme the SACP made no secret of its intention to enter into an alliance with all those struggling to overthrow the system of "racist capitalism"; it accepted the goals of the Freedom Charter as the immediate aims of the liberation struggle; and saw itself as the vanguard of the working class.

The way was now open for it to enter into an alliance with South African "liberation" movements which enjoyed a much greater level of popular support.

This was a necessary step for the SACP. It had never enjoyed significant support in South Africa (blacks tended to be suspicious of the downplaying of "race" in favour of "class" analysis); and after its banning in 1950, it had ceased to be a political movement of any note in South Africa.

In 1968, the ANC removed an obstacle to collaboration with the communists by allowing whites to join its Revolutionary Council which had the authority to direct Umkhonto (the ANC military arm).

Joe Slovo, a South African exile communist, and Yusuf Dadoo (then chairman of the SACP) emerged as two dominant figures in the council.

These closer organisational links between the ANC and SACP have had their benefits for the ANC.

They have given the ANC access to diplomatic and military support from Eastern-bloc countries--military assistance being particularly welcome as Western countries have willingly supplied diplomatic and humanitarian aid, but have refused to give military supplies.

The links have also had their costs. The ANC has had to take a strong pro-Soviet line in international affairs, as witness its support for the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968 and of Afghanistan in 1981.

And, as a result, the ANC has been viewed with suspicion by many anti-communist pressure groups in the West.

It is this link with Moscow that is likely to cause the problems for the ANC as it attempts to establish its bona fides with the West.

The official Soviet media rarely refers to the ANC without stating its links with the SACP, and it is this alliance which is a pre-condition of Soviet support.

The Soviets are not only interested in seeing majority rule come to South Africa (a view which they share with many noncommunists in West), but they want to ensure that the revolutionary struggle is led by a Marxist vanguard as happened in Angola and Mozambique.

This is in keeping with Moscow's general conditions of support for any nationalist "liberation movement": that it must be in alliance with the communists, or "workers parties," sympathetic to Russia and antisympathetic to Peking.

Inevitably, ANC policy has tended to become more socialistic in character and its rhetoric shows signs of a strong communist involvement.

It now openly accepts a class analysis of South Africa and subordinates "racial" issues. However, it continues to accept the mildly socialist goals formulated in the Freedom Charter, and the multiparty competitive democratic system which it presupposes.

There have also been costs for the communists in their alliance with the ANC. They are now open to the accusation that they are diluting their socialist goals for South Africa--a charge made during the late 70's by white ANC members who were subsequently expelled from the ANC.

But the communists are probably correct in believing that these costs are outweighed by the advantages: the ANC (unlike the SACP) enjoys a high degree of popularity with South African Blacks, and has strong popular support.

This certainly cannot be said for the SACP. Indeed, if the SACP did not have a link with the ANC it would be a totally ineffective political movement.

There can be little doubt that the mutual involvement of the ANC and SACP is, and has been extensive. The SACP plays an important part in determining ANC policy and strategy, and the present advantages to both the ANC and SACP outweigh their disadvantages.

However, increasingly close links with Eastern-bloc countries and the Soviet Union are likely to put severe strains on the unity of the opposition in exile as closer support links are forged with anticommunist Western nations.

The communists have never had a hidden agenda in their relationship with the ANC.

They have continually asserted that their strategic aim is to destroy the system of capitalist exploitation in South Africa, and to replace it with a socialist system. This they believe can only happen if political power is placed in the hands of the working class.

The national democratic revolution (the goal of the Freedom Charter) is only the first step towards the communist goal. The alliance with the ANC is a necessary initial step towards this goal which is openly stated by the communists.

The communists see South Africa's future developing through successive phases. The first is the liberation struggle of the SACP/ANC alliance through Umkhonto.

The second is the national democratic era of the implementation of the principles of the Freedom Charter as a result of the successful overthrow of the South African Government through the military power of Umkhonto in alliance with the black working class.

The third is the setting up of a people's democracy, not stated, but presumably through a single party state; and finally, a developed socialism on the lines of a pure socialist state.

The third is the setting up of a people's democracy, not stated, but presumably through a single party state; and finally, a developed socialism on the lines of a pure socialist state.

The first three phases are periods of an eroding capitalism in which the ANC is to play an important part. In the final phase the ANC will be either supplanted or become a governing proletarian party.

It is not surprising that such a relationship between the ANC and the SACP is a cause for concern among some Western observers of South African exile politics, and a periodic cause of conflict within the ANC itself.

There can be little doubt that the mutual involvement of the ANC and SACP is, and has been, extensive. The SACP play an important part in determining ANC policy and strategy.

However, increasingly close links with Eastern-bloc countries and the Soviet Union are likely to put severe strains on the unity of the opposition in exile as closer support links are forged with anti-communist Western nations.

If the ANC successfully solicits support from Western countries it is likely that this will be at the cost of decreasing communist involvement in the movement.

As a result factional pressures will grow within the ANC. The alternatives for the ANC will be perfectly clear, but the choice very difficult: it will either have to jettison the communists or forego its Western support.

Whatever it chooses, the ANC will probably find itself facing severe internal splits.

The Nkomati Accord has already put severe strains on the ANC and it is likely that it will reexamine its military strategy.

A new brand of ANC leadership may be tempted to follow a more expedient political strategy and to lay less emphasis on the military role of the ANC, but hardline communists will almost certainly resist such a move. These problems for the ANC in exile will lighten the pressure upon the South African Government over the next two or three years and give it the opportunity of demonstrating its commitment to policies of reform.

NEWSPAPER SLAMS BAN ON TRIAL FOR NAMIBIA DETAINEES

MB041042 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 4 May 84 p 8

[Editorial: "Political Chicanery"]

[Text] Across the continent from the small town of Nkomati is another small town, Mariental. While Nkomati symbolises some progress towards regional sanity, Mariental has regrettably become associated with South African political chicanery.

Last Friday the minister of justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, "banned" a Supreme Court application to free 37 "undeclared prisoners of South-West African town. The Certificate issued by Mr Coetsee in terms of the Defence Act ordered that steps to free the prisoners "may not be proceeded with", and that no appeal against the "banning" may be made in either South Africa or SWA courts. The prisoners--officially 146 of them including at least 14 Angolans--were seized by the SADF in a raid on a SWAPO camp at Cassinga in Southern Angola on 4 May 1978.

The edict has met with an outraged reaction--and rightly so. The SWA Bar Council accused the Government of being in direct conflict with the "application of any civilised legal system." A U.S. legal group, the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, described the action as repudiating "any notion of an independent judiciary or a commitment to the rule of law."

That such a law exists on our statute books to be invoked at ministerial whim is appalling.

The subsequent statement by the administrator-general of SWA, Dr Willie van Niekerk, that the prisoners would be released "gradually" and that their release was connected to negotiations with Angola, is no consolation. Neither is last night's announcement--welcome as it is--that 54 will be released soon.

Damage has been done. When people are held in secret camps for undisclosed reasons, then the courts ought to be allowed to test their status--and the legality of their imprisonment. Were they being held as formal prisoners of war or simply as political detainees? Did the authorities have a legal right to hold them? To deny judicial scrutiny is to ride roughshod over the rule of law.

MURDER OF INDIANS, POLITICAL VIOLENCE DENOUNCED

Durban THE GRAPHIC in English 20 Apr 84 p 6

["Spotlight" column by Vadig Ali: "Why the Silence?"]

[Text]

WHY THE SILENCE?

Mr Mewa Ramgobin, Mr Paul David, Dr H.M. Coovadia and Dr Farouk Meer all prominent in the Natal Indian Congress, are quite articulate politicians. They are never slow to criticise and condemn those with whom they disagree. In recent months they have, as if by common cause and by design, concentrated their attack upon Solidarity.

Solidarity has of course declared that it is in favour of the politics of persuasion. It wants fundamental change and believes that this can be achieved through non-violent means.

However there are certain political groups — both of the extreme Left and of the extreme Right — which believe in and use violence for political ends.

THREE MURDERED

One such act of violence resulted in the wanton murder of three people in Durban recently. Two of those were members of the Indian community who had given greatly of their time, money and energy to further the interests of Black South Africans.

Widespread horror has been expressed at these killings. The President of the Natal Indian Congress made an ambivalent statement which lacked any clear denunciation of the murders in this instance.

BUT SILENCE

But the other usually vociferous spokesman for the Natal Indian Congress have maintained a deafening silence on this issue.

A Nationalist Cabi-

net Minister has alleged that the A.N.C. was responsible for the murder of Mr & Mrs Rengasamy and Mrs Green. There is no evidence in support of that allegation and the A.N.C. has not claimed responsibility. The possibility that this may have been an extreme Rightwing attack cannot be dismissed. But whoever did it, the dastardly deed was clearly an act of political violence, aimed recklessly at any innocent human beings in the vicinity.

As I say, in this case, the A.N.C. may well not have been involved. But it has been proved time and time and time again that the A.N.C. has embarked upon a campaign of violence for political purposes in S.A. The A.N.C. itself both from Lusaka and from London

has made claims that it organised the explosions from which a number of entirely innocent human beings have been killed or maimed.

THE CONGRESS MOVEMENT

Now the A.N.C. was the largest partner in the Congress Movement which was dominated by the Communist Party. It is Communist credo that liberation can only come from violent revolution. The Natal Indian Congress was also a very influential member of the Congress Movement. Dr Yusuf Dadoo while he was President of the T.I.C. was also a member of the C.C.C. — the Central Communist Committee. After he went to London, Dr Dadoo was one of the persons who played a pivotal role in organising violence in

S.A.

Now, although the present Natal Indian Congress is as far removed from the principles and practices of Mahatma Gandhi as Stalin's actions in Soviet Russia were from the precepts of Karl Marx, it does insist upon fatherhood by the Mahatma.

BY PERSUASION

Mahatma Gandhi's entire life was dedicated to non-violent techniques. He insisted that one must win over one's enemy with Love. He was the personification of reconciliation. At the height of the 1923 Civil Disobedience Movement in India, a group of Congress volunteers resorted to violence.

Mahatmaji was grief-stricken by this. Rather not have independence

for India, he declared, than have this terrible stain against its name. And, much to Nehru's annoyance, the Mahatma called off the campaign.

Now, if anyone were to expect any of the present leaders of the Natal Indian Congress to follow the example of Mahatma Gandhi, he will have to wait a hundred years. But the question is, does the Natal Indian Congress support, or does it condemn the violent revolution that seems to be the aim of the A.N.C.?

MUST BE FRANK

Why is it that the N.I.C. has not at any time dissociated itself from the decision taken by its erstwhile comrades in the Congress Movement to embark upon a course of violence. What is the reason for silence on this issue?

Dr Farouk Meer and Mr Mewa Ramgobin and Mr Paul David and Dr H.M. Coovadia must deal with this matter fully and frankly. Do they support the acts of violence of the ANC or do they condemn it?

Insofar as the small Indian community of S.A. is concerned, it is at one with Chief Gatsha Buthelezi when he deplores violence. From violence there will only result ashes, says the Chief time and time again. And no one wants to inherit ashes.

As a matter of fact, President Samora Machel of Mozambique has at long last heeded the words of the Chief. Reconciliation is the word from up north.

THE CHOICE

There are many views on the looming tricameral parliament. But all except those who wish to promote the Soviet interests are steadfastly against violent revolution.

To all sensible people in S.A. there is only one choice . . . to tread the path of persuasion . . . of winning over one's opponents by reasoned argument . . . of supporting any and every gesture towards reconciliation.

Regrettably the Natal and the Transvaal Indian Congresses do not want to tread this path. Their's is the destructive, negative role of protest and boycott. Whether they intend it or not, their activities serve only to help those who want a disoriented community that will be easy prey for those who peddle political violence.

BRIEFS

BORDER DAMS PLANNED--PROPOSALS for the construction of one dam on the Komati river and another on the Lomati river--involving estimated expenditure of R150-million are to be submitted to the governments of Swaziland and South Africa by a Joint Permanent Technical Committee, writes Lynn Carlisle. The joint committee, comprising representatives from both countries, has appointed consulting engineers headed by Dr Henry Olivier of Johannesburg and the firm Chaunnett, Fourie and Partners of Pretoria. "Out of their investigations the joint committee has accepted certain proposals and these have been submitted to both governments. It is not known when any announcement about acceptance or otherwise will be made" says Anton Steyn, a spokesman of the Department of Water Affairs. If the two dams are built they will stabilise existing irrigation in the area, where a perennial water shortage exists late in the year. The possibility of some extension of irrigation also exists. [Text] [Johannesburg INDUSTRIAL WEEK in English 17 Apr 84 p 3]

REJECTION OF NGK--CAPE TOWN.--Theology students at the University of Western Cape are boycotting classes of White lecturers who have links with the Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerk (NGK). They are demanding that the lecturers renounce their membership of the NGK. The latest blow to relations between the NGK and the Nederduitse Gereformeerde Sendingkerk was when the NGK's official organ, Die Kerkbode, published a reply to attacks by the last Sendingkerk synod on its stand on apartheid. The NGK General Moderator said it was "acting under the guidance of the Lord." It called on the Sendingkerk to throw out its status confessions, which declared apartheid to be a heresy and against the spirit of the gospel, so that discussions could take place. In a statement released yesterday students said they were demanding that: --Any temporary or guest lecturer who visits the campus must through his teaching or actions prove that he finds apartheid contrary to the spirit of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and --Full-time lecturers who are still legitimised by the NGK must announce their intention to surrender that legitimisation by Friday. Lectures and tests by these lecturers will not be attended until then. A final date of June 3 was set for lecturers to renounce legitimisation by the NGK. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 24 Apr 84 p 8]

CSO: 3400.941

CAMPAIGN TO ELIMINATE VICE ADVOCATED

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 30 Apr 84 p 10

[Text]

MBABANE. — Prostitution in Swaziland is increasing to such an extent that unless the police launch a vigorous campaign to rid the country of prostitutes Swaziland may become a "Sodom and Gomorrah" according to an article published in Swaziland's Observer newspaper yesterday.

In a front page article headlined "Sex for Sale" the paper said investigations had been undertaken covering night spots in Manzini, Mbabane and the Ezulwini valley, where the country's main entertainment spots are situated.

It said schoolgirls, many of whom were school dropouts, were seen at these places and were obviously "heavily involved in this oldest profession."

"These girls, like journalists with a nose for news, know their big buyers, the people who can

pay any amount to go to bed with them."

The paper quotes one girl interviewed as saying that on public holidays, when most of the tourists from South Africa flock to Swaziland, she makes at least R200 a night.

"For every shot I charge the White man and other foreigners R30. When it means spending a night with them in their hotel room then the amount doubles."

The paper also quoted the reactions of some tourists to the alleged amount of prostitution in Swaziland. A White tourist was quoted as saying: "Before I came to Swaziland I had only heard about prostitutes. I have been to nightclubs and other hotels and what you see there is sex taking place everywhere."

An African tourist commented that what in

other African countries was regarded as "taboo", in Swaziland there appeared to be no restrictions and the moral fibre of the nation was being damaged.

Prof Lydia Makhubu, a senior lecturer in the Science and Medical Department of the University of Swaziland, when asked what she considered to be the cause of the problem said the cost of living had gone up so much that "a lot of girls go into prostitution simply to earn a living".

A police headquarters spokesman was quoted as saying he was unaware of prostitution being on the increase in Swaziland. He said that from a legal point of view, much of what was called prostitution was not. When women were found in drinking places enjoying themselves "it is assumed they are prostitutes". — Sapa.

CSO: 3400/941

TRADERS REFUSE TO SELL GRAIN AT OFFICIAL PRICE

London AFRICA NOW in English Apr 84 pp 63-65

[Text]

Six months after an appalling harvest, northern Upper Volta still has a serious shortage of food. The urgent needs of the area focus attention on the total inadequacy of existing food distribution policies in much of the Sahel.

Each year, northerners living on these fragile lands are obliged to sell livestock to buy some of their food. The almost complete failure of their last rainy season increased their food shortfall, and so highlighted the structural weaknesses in the distribution system.

The Sahel receives nearly all its rain in July and August; the remaining months are dry. Although the total amount of rain may not be great, it falls in a few torrential downpours, often washing away sandy soils left from the previous months of hot dry weather. Last year, the rains failed again in many parts of the Sahel, ruining food crops which were due for harvest in October.

The Oudalan, a Sahelian region centred on Gorom Gorom in the far north east of Upper Volta, was one of these places where the rains failed. The Oudalan never produces enough food to satisfy its needs, and every year the people buy some food grown elsewhere in the country. But this year rainfall was less than half the average for the area, and the estimated production deficit was 82%. More than 16,000 tonnes were going to have to be imported into the area.

But localised harvest failure of this kind should not be a problem. Further south, production was good and some areas of the country saw a bumper harvest. In January, the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) agreed with the Voltaic Government that the national harvest was about 1m tonnes and the shortfall something like

140,000 tonnes. Part of this shortfall can be met through stocks already in the country and the net deficit to be met through imports is estimated at 90,000 tonnes. This is not a large quantity — less than 8% of what the country normally produces — and can certainly be met with surplus production from other countries.

The problem is proving to be getting the food up to the Sahelian north. The local field director for the British aid agency Oxfam reports that food is still not on sale in the local markets in the north. This year, the failure of the distribution systems could be critical, because the people of the north are so much more dependent upon them than usual. Over the last four months, the almost exclusively rural population of the Oudalan has been moving towards the urban centres; encampments have appeared on the outskirts of Gorom Gorom, and families there told Oxfam field staff that large numbers of destitute relatives and friends are arriving from outlying villages. People learnt in 1973 that food supplies are delivered to the urban areas in years of hardship; the number of hungry people is increasing every day.

Most grain that reaches a market in Upper Volta is bought up by private traders who then resell it in areas of shortage. They speculate each year by storing the food until the market price rises, as the shortages become more severe. This year, drought means that market prices are likely to rise even higher than usual while cattle prices will fall, making it very much harder for northerners to get together the money they will need to buy cereal.

The new Voltaic Government of Captain Thomas Sankara, in power since last August, is insisting that grain be sold at the

official (lower) price. Many traders have responded by refusing to sell. Millet stocks have arrived in the warehouse of at least one trader in the north but the man will not sell if it must be at the official price. At the end of last year, private traders organised a large march and rally in the capital, Ouagadougou, in support of the new government. Clearly, though, many are not as supportive as they could be.

The national grain marketing board, OFNACER, has no millet for sale in its depots in Dori and Gorom Gorom either. It is responsible for between 10% and 20% of the country's marketed cereals, but its purchases are intended primarily for the country's urban consumers (8% of the population). Even if cereals do eventually arrive in OFNACER northern sales depots, people in outlying rural areas will be obliged to make the long journey to the urban centres in a donkey cart, on a bicycle or on foot. The poorest will inevitably suffer most.

Faced with this breakdown in distribution and with the urgent needs of the north, some non-governmental aid agencies this year provided large loans to village groups and co-operatives so that they could travel south themselves and buy grain for resale in their own villages at the official price. Oxfam has just provided £16,000 to the village groups of the Oudalan. At the same time, aid agencies have been paying for the repair of government transport facilities in the north, so that some food can be taken to villages in need.

Non-governmental aid agencies have also been funding village groups to buy their own production at harvest time and then sell it back to themselves later in the year at the official price, thus avoiding traders' high prices. These village cereal banks are of critical importance in a difficult year, and Oxfam has now funded fifty of them in Upper Volta. At harvest time last year, a seminar was organised in Ouagadougou in an attempt to persuade the new government to support the spread of decentralised village-controlled grain storage rather than continuing to think that the solution lay in investing even more money in the bureaucratic state grain agency, OFNACER.

There are now hints that the government has been impressed by the increasing success of these decentralised collective initiatives. The government is beginning to organise cereal sales in villages, with the participation of the new Committees for the Defence of the Revolution to ensure that the food is sold at the official price. Committees in urban areas are being encouraged to report traders who are hoarding grain supplies.

But the problem is not just one of logistics or of storage. Just a few hundred kilometres south of the Oudalan, barns were overflowing in October after a bumper harvest and farmers were worried about the

low price they would receive on the local market.

Several farmers said that they plan to increase their cotton production in place of millet next rainy season, since they know that the cotton will be collected swiftly by the government services and that they will get a good price for their harvest. The statistics show that food production is not increasing in Upper Volta, despite food self-sufficiency having been a declared priority of all recent governments. Instead, an increasing amount of the country's best land is being put under cash crops for export, primarily cotton.

At the time of independence, Upper Volta produced around 2,000 tonnes of cotton annually; by 1976 the figure had multiplied more than twenty times. During the same 15-year period, millet and sorghum production stagnated; this year Upper Volta has grown exactly the same quantity of millet and sorghum as in 1960. More and more technical assistance has been provided to increase cotton yields. Producer prices have been increased to encourage cotton rather than foodcrops. Thirty per cent of the rural population of Upper Volta is now involved in cotton production. The drought this year has done no more than underline the inevitable results of a lopsided agricultural policy which works against the interests of the poorest.

This apparent lack of state and donor interest in increased cereal production is reflected in the aid figures. A total of \$7.45bn in aid was committed to the Sahel between 1975 and 1980, two thirds of it in the form of outright grants. Just 16% of it was directed towards food crops. In 1982, less than 4% of Upper Volta's national budget was allocated to the Ministry of Rural Development. Ministry extension staff are regularly without fuel for their mopeds to visit the villages they are responsible for. Many do not even have a bicycle. Meanwhile, the armed forces swallowed up about 20% of the national budget last year.

Crop yields are becoming poorer in Upper Volta: villagers say "the soil is tired". Farmers are obliged to farm more of the marginal and vulnerable land to the north of the agricultural zone, such as the Oudalan. This brings them into direct conflict with herders. The Oxfam field director reported increasing disputes in northern Upper Volta during the last rainy season between farmers and herders who are crowded onto smaller areas of pasture and competing with the farmers for scarce water supplies. Pasture was already poor after the low 1982 rainfall. Two consecutive years of poor rainfall have now ruined the pastureland. Cattle prices are at rock bottom, and many people do not have the cash to buy the food their families need ●

CULTURAL PACT WITH SOVIETS SIGNED

Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English 18 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] ZAMBIA will this year receive 75 scholarships from the Soviet Union following the signing of a one-year programme of scientific and cultural co-operation between the two countries.

The signing ceremony took place yesterday at the National Commission for Development Planning (N-CDP) offices.

NCDP minister, Dr Henry Meebelo, signed on behalf of Zambia while the Soviet ambassador to Zambia Mr Vladimir Tcherednik signed on behalf of his country.

Dr Meebelo said the agreement will afford Zambia the opportunity to have specialist lecturers from the Soviet Union to teach science and medicine in its schools.

He said Zambia is still lagging behind in science and technology and that the services provided by the Soviet lecturers this year will help accelerate this advancement.

The minister said the one-year programme affords Zambia the opportunity of consolidating here relationship with the Soviet Union.

He said the programme will also encourage cultural exchanges between the two countries.

And Mr Tcherednik said scientific institutions in his country were interested in establishing direct contact with the National Council for Scientific Research (NCSR) in order to assist Zambia develop scientifically.

Although the Soviet Union has not yet explored which specific field this assistance would be provided, Mr Tcherednik said his country would get in touch with the relevant authorities to find out where Zambia needed assistance.

On Cultural exchanges, the ambassador said these have become one-sided because Zambian cultural groups were finding it difficult to travel to the Soviet Union due to financial problems.

He said the Soviet Union could learn a lot from Zambian choral groups and hoped that the financial problems affecting cultural groups will be eased soon.

The ambassador also said his country hopes to introduce five feature films on Television Zambia to show the best the Soviet Union have made in the film-industry.

CSO: 3400/942

DEFENSE MINISTER URGES AIR FORCE TO EXERCISE DISCIPLINE

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 20 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] THE Zambia Air Force should exercise maximum discipline if it is to succeed in its primary role of containing external aggression and protecting life and property, Defence Minister Mr Clement Mwananshiku said in Mumbwa yesterday.

Discipline was crucial and it was for this reason that all members of the air force should be exemplary in their behaviour because they formed an important group in society.

Speaking at a passout parade for airmen who completed an advanced technical course at the ZAF base in Mumbwa, Mr Mwananshiku told the officers that the defence forces they had chosen to serve was one of the vital organs of the Party.

It was imperative that they understood the aspirations of the Party and its Government.

The minister was pleased with the assurance given by ZAF commander Brigadier-General Hannaniah Lungu that his men were behind the Party and its Government.

He noted that loyalty had been an important ingredient to the peace and stability Zambia had enjoyed since Independence.

"I can only urge you to continue to remain loyal as always for peace and development of our nation," said the minister.

Unless there was political awareness among members of the defence forces they would fail to appreciate their role in defending Zambia's principles as enshrined in the philosophy of Humanism in relation to events at home and abroad.

Mr Mwananshiku said Zambia was concerned about the oppressive system of apartheid in South Africa.

Zambia would continue to support the liberation struggle in the sub-continent and the defence forces had a crucial role to play in spearheading the struggle for freedom in South Africa and Namibia.

He told the 29 officers that learning was a continuous process particularly in "this supersonic age" where technological advancement was a daily occurrence.

Training was of utmost importance to airmen if they were to respond to the rapid technological changes through repeated training to be of better practical service to the air force and the nation.

He hoped the training the officers had would enhance their skills and help Zambia achieve her desired goals in various fields.

He reminded them that the air force operated extremely delicate equipment in which the Government had invested heavily in financial resources.

"In this context the training that you have had will not only ensure that equipment is well handled by skilled hands but it will also guarantee their life span and operational efficiency.

"It is absolutely necessary that in the handling of the equipment maximum care and caution is exercised."

He urged the officers to constantly refer to regulations, bulletins, manuals and other related literature in their daily endeavours.

Mr Mwananshiku was aware that during the course of their training the officers had faced various administrative problems emanating from scarcity of resources, but stressed that this was not a deliberate move by the Party and its Government to deny them the facilities.

He blamed these on the global economic recession which had dealt a severe blow even to the most developed economies of the world.

This was worsened by the fact that Zambia was faced with a prolonged drought which had devastated most of Southern Africa.

--A major appeal for K2.4 billion in international aid for the drought-hit Sahel countries of West Africa has been launched in Geneva.

The assistance programme, spread over four years, aims to provide K1.2 billion during this year.

It is estimated that K640 million is urgently needed to pay for 1.6 million tonnes of food. The purchase of vehicles to distribute the urgent aid will account for K500 million, food and health care for cattle another K71.2 million.

The Sahel countries are Chad, Upper Volta, Niger, Mali, Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, and the Cape Verde Islands, ravaged by drought. The overall life expectancy there is only 43.

The appeal is being made by the permanent interstate committee on drought control in the Sahel, with the backing of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Sahel office.

In the longer term, the programme aims to provide K216 million to build 7,000 km of roads and to maintain existing ones.

CSO: 3400/942

PTC SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH CIT-ALCATEL

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 27 Apr 84 p 1

[Text]

THE POSTS and Telecommunications Corporation (PTC) yesterday signed a K17 million contract with a French company, Cit-Alcatel, for the installation of digital telephone exchanges in Livingstone, Ndola and Woodlands in Lusaka.

Out-going PTC director-general, Mr Philemon Ngoma told his audience at the signing ceremony held at the PTC headquarters in Ndola, which was also attended by the PTC director-general designate, Mr Langston Kawesha, that the project was designed to improve services within the localities of the three towns and between them and other parts of the country.

The project, which will be co-

mpleted by mid-1986, will be financed by a soft loan to be provided by the French government and about K500,000 will be in local currency.

He said the money to be spent on the project covers training to be given to Zambian personnel, spare parts and other requirements.

As part of the contract, Cit-Alcatel will provide training for PTC personnel before the commissioning of the exchange. The training will be conducted mainly in France.

Mr Ngoma, who was recently retired by President Kaunda, explained that the new exchanges to be installed are of the latest electronic telephone equipment technology using the most up-to-date pulse code modulation and time division techniques. The exchanges will also have a maintenance repair centre.

The cost of new telephone exchange for Ndola alone will be about K6.6 million while those to be installed in Livingstone and Woodlands in Lusaka will cost K3.5 million and K3.2 million respectively.

The initial capacity of the exchanges will be 23,000 telephone lines.

Once completed the Ndola new exchange will have 13,000 lines while Livingstone and Lusaka exchanges will have 5,000 lines each.

The corporation will provide new exchange buildings at Woodlands and for the six satellite sites in Ndola, namely, Kansenshi, Northrise, Pamodzi, industrial area North and industrial area South, Mr Ngoma explained.

He also said the corporation would provide internal arrangements to the existing buildings at Ndola main and Livingstone and would also provide cable and regenerator man-holes for PTC links to the six satellite sites in Ndola.

CSO: 3400/942

ROLE OF ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION PRAISED

Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English 17 Apr 84 p 4

[Article by Wellington Kalwisha]

[Text] DESPITE the proverb, it is not only power that can corrupt because even the poor--out of want, and the wealthy--out of greed, are equally susceptible except probably that temptations rise correspondingly the greater the influence and the higher one ascends on the social ladder.

An impression is created that only the powerful can be comptible and yet the case is that corruption, unlike other vices which tend to flow to a lower level, has neither respect nor recognition for status and therefore the degree of vulnerability can not be determined by one's position in society alone.

What can be said is that corrupt deeds by "big people" attract greater attention whenever exposed and consequently do much more damage to social values. The influential not only have a longer reach but their "connections" are more effective and their capacity to do damage that is much more devastating.

Of course, corruption is indefensible, at whatever level it occurs, though it has been strongly argued that if the war against corruption in this country is to be won then it must be directed at those capable of inflicting the greatest damage. Those on low rungs can only get crushed in the process of trying to reach those who manipulate the vice rings.

In the wake of a three-pronged attack on corruption, launched by the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), which will include an educational campaign--through seminars and issuing publicity material and speedy investigations into cases brought before the ACC, sceptics have said the exercise will be futile because the apparent prevalence of cases of corruption is merely a sign of the hard times the country is experiencing.

But the ACC, and rightly so, would have nothing of that sort of defeatism and according to the commission's head, Mr Justice William Bruce-Lyle, who recently held a news conference to report on the progress that the ACC has made since its inception in 1980, there are already "positive" signs that people have confidence in the effectiveness of the ACC.

The ACC commissioner, Mr Justice Bruce-Lyle, said the workload of the ACC has increased tremendously and that this was a positive sign that people were aware of the existence of the commission and had confidence in its ability to investigate their complaints.

He said since January this year the ACC had received 300 complaints of alleged or suspected corruption. Of these 103 have been authorised for investigation. "However, many of the reports concern alleged offences, which fall outside the ACC's investigative jurisdiction as defined by the Corrupt Practices Act," he said.

The ACC's progress report came barely four months after President Kaunda had exposed a ring of conspiracy against consumers by some corrupt parastatal managers who allegedly bought goods from expensive sources in exchange for "kick backs".

To fight such acts the President announced measures to seal the loopholes that were being exploited. He said "Corruption in some of our parastatals and private companies has reached alarming proportions".

The President said the situation has been compounded by rampant thefts and pilfering, wastage, unnecessarily high overhead charges, I-don't-care attitude, and downright indolence. "All these forces have conspired to weaken the economy."

To illustrate the seriousness of the situation the President gave for an example one unnamed parastatal company where workers referred to thieving as "ticketing". In this particular company, 50 per cent of the money was pilfered and only the remainder was left to be utilised on productive work, he said.

Zambia is, of course, a relatively clean country when compared to the amount of corruption that goes in most African countries where for one to get by must have a substantial amount of money for "dashing", or as is commonly referred to in Zambia, "greasing fingers" for all services rendered.

The true extent of corruption in Zambia, like in any other country, is impossible to determine accurately because most of the cases go unreported. But if the figures given by the ACC is anything to go by then the trend should be alarming.

Thus the intensification of the fight against corruption which, according to the ACC, directly contributes to poor economic performance and to the erosion of social values, and ultimately leads to political instability. "The Party and its government is determined that corruption should never gain a foothold in Zambia," declared the ACC chief.

That corruption ultimately leads to political instability should be understood in terms of the excuse given each time a government is deposed. Corruption is always given as reason why a government deserves to be overthrown, although, unfortunately, the trend in Africa has been that those who make

accusations of corruption end up to be actually the corrupt ones. The allegation merely serves as a convenient excuse.

In this light the Party and its government deserve credit for establishing the ACC, not only to ensure political stability by fighting all corrupt elements within the system, but also as a means of maintaining high social mores in the country.

The ACC is not the only vehicle being used by the Party and its government in the fight against corruption for the ACC was set up, not to supplant, but merely supplement efforts by the Commission for Investigations, the Leadership Code, and the Zambia Police.

These anti-graft organ's areas of operation do sometimes overlap but in the main they are divided into specific speciality zones so as to enhance their effectiveness. For instance, the police is largely concerned, in as far as the campaign against corruption goes, in cases of thefts by public officers, embezzlement or similar frauds.

Acts of nepotism, maladministration, and abuses of office in the public service, which are not covered by the Corrupt Practices Act, are dealt with by the Commission for Investigations.

And the Leadership Code, which critics say is too easy to circumvent as to make it ineffective, is meant to ensure proper economic conduct by individuals in the leadership. Its success, by and large, depends on supporting institutions like the ACC and the Commission for Investigations.

As part of its campaign to make known its operations, the ACC has issued an information leaflet which, among other objectives, aims to explain the destructive nature of corruption and how the public can join the fight against corruption.

Concerned

--Broadly speaking, the Corrupt Practices Act (1980), is concerned with acts of bribery, the unexplained possession of pecuniary resources or property by public officers, and any conduct of public officers which is connected with or conducive to corrupt practices. A corrupt practice takes place when a person corruptly solicits, accepts or obtains a bribe for doing or omitting to do a certain act, or when that person is corruptly given, promised or offered a bribe for doing or omitting to do the act.

--Unless you are a lawyer it will be difficult for you to know whether a particular act amounts to a corrupt practice or not, so do not hesitate to contact the Anti-Corruption Commission if you believe that corruption has taken place. The commission will evaluate your report and if it does not fall within its powers to investigate, you will be advised of alternative courses of action which may be open to you.

Detrimental

--You do not need to be an economist to see that corruption has a seriously detrimental effect upon the economic wellbeing of a nation. Each time an official entrusted with the task of procuring goods or services for a public body deliverately accepts unjustifiably high prices, fails to negotiate a deal to the proper advantage of his public body, or turns a blind eye to the inferior quality of goods or services he has procured, all because he has been promised or given a 'kick-back' as a reward, the national exchequer suffers a loss.

--If official corruption is widespread, the weight of such accumulated losses becomes intolerable, and the economy suffers. Each time a public officer, in return for a bribe, abuses his official position, he undermines Party and government policy and hinders progress towards the attainment of its aims.

--In the private sector, the demand for or offer of bribes leads to inequalities and to the undermining of social values, through a situation in which business decisions are taken not on merit but on the basis of who is willing to pay the biggest bribe. Corruption is extremely dangerous and must not be allowed to take root, for if it does it will soon spread and become accepted as a way of life, in which case its accumulated negative effects will inevitably produce catastrophic results. This must never be allowed to happen in Zambia.

--The commission receives reports of alleged or suspected corrupt practices, which are investigated by officers of its Operations Branch in accordance with professional law enforcement procedures. The evidence thus assembled is presented to the Director of Public Prosecutions, and if he gives his consent, the alleged offender is taken to court. Upon conviction, an offender faces severe penalties, including a mandatory minimum sentence of five years imprisonment for official corruption.

--The preventive function is arguably the most important of all, as measures which effectively make corruption impossible mean that its negative effects cannot do any harm. In performing this vital task, the commission examines the practices and procedures of public and private bodies in order to pinpoint weaknesses which permit corruption to flourish, and advises on methods to control or eliminate such corruption opportunities.

--The third function of the commission is to educate the public on the evil and dangerous effects of corruption on society, and to enlist popular support to fight it. Officers of the commission frequently address meetings of professional, educational or other organisations, and maintain close links with the news media in getting the anti-corruption message across to the people.

The performance of these three functions, investigation, prevention, and community relations, constitutes the Anti-Corruption Commission's 'three pronged attack' on corruption.

Activities

Report activities which you have genuine reason to believe amount to corrupt practices. You can write to the commission at Box 50486, Lusaka, telephone Lusaka 219018, or call in person at the commission's headquarters at Block 25, Independence Avenue, Lusaka (between Cabinet Office and Mulungushi House). When making a report, it is important that you should provide as much information as you can. It is rarely possible for the commission to undertake inquiries into vague allegations which are not supported by hard facts.

You should know that it is a serious offence against the Corrupt Practices Act (1980), knowingly to make a false report to the commission. This does not, of course, mean that you will be in trouble if the commission fails to substantiate your allegation, or even if it is found to be untrue. It would only be an offence if it turned out that your report had been made with the deliberate intention of misleading the commission.

Confronted

If you genuinely believe that you know something about corruption, go ahead and make a full report to the commission. The report will be fully investigated and you will be informed of the result.

If you are confronted by a person who makes it clear that he is demanding or offering a bribe, let the Anti-Corruption Commission or Zambia Police know immediately, and co-operate with the investigations they launch into your complaint.

If you are in any position of authority in a public, parastatal or private body, you have a vital role to play in preventing corruption. As a senior executive, you are responsible for the efficient performance of your subordinates. You have a duty to introduce proper controls and effective methods of work which deny opportunities to the potentially corrupt. Some of the measures you can implement require no more than the exercise of common sense, others are more complicated and call for specialist advice. The commission is able to provide such advice to senior officials and managers upon request.

CSO: 3400/942

CONSUMER PRICES FOR 1983 REPORTED

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 26 Apr 84 p 2

[Text] PRICES of consumer goods escalated highest in the first nine months of 1983 compared to the previous three years, according to figures released by the Central Statistical Office in Lusaka yesterday.

The figures show that a 50 kg bag of breakfast mealie meal during the period went up by 34.3 per cent to K21.75. Frozen kapenta by 91.7 per cent to K1.38 for half a kilo; spinach by 48.3 per cent to K1.32 for a kilo while the same quantity of rape rose by 5.6 per cent to 95 ngwee.

"A look at the price increases during the first nine months shows that increases in prices were highest in 1983.

"This was not contrary to

expectations because of the devaluation of the Kwacha, decontrol of pricing system, reduction of subsidies and budgetary measures. In general prices of almost all goods have been rising since the beginning of 1983 and looking at the increases in September 1983, the upward trend in prices is likely to continue."

The consumer price index for the low income group rose from 308.6 in June 1983 to 322.2 in September the same year, registering an increase of just over four per cent.

This is in contrast to the consumer price index for the high income group which registered

a lower percentage increase of about two and half per cent during the same period from 279.8 to 286.9.

"The inflation rate in September 1983, measured as a percentage change in the consumer price index between one month in the previous year and the same month in the current year for the low income was 21.9 per cent and this was higher than that of July and August 1983.

"The high income group experienced an increase in the inflation rate. The rate reached a level of 18.4 per cent in September 1983 after showing a moderate decline from a level of 17.6 per cent in June to 17.2 per cent in August."

Notable price increases in the low income group between September 1982 and September 1983 occurred for household goods and furnishings which shot up by 47 per cent, other goods and services at 26 per cent and food and beverages and tobacco at 24 per cent.

The high income group had highest increases in household goods and furnishings at 31 per cent, other goods and services at 27 per cent, recreation, education and entertainment at 22 per cent, transport and communication 20 per cent and food beverages and tobacco at 19 per cent.

The publication states that families in the high income group spent more money on food beverages and tobacco compared to other groups.

SESHEKE SECURITY CHECKS STEPPED UP

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 22 Apr 84 p 1

[Text]

THE Government has set up three roadblocks manned by immigration officers on Nakatindi road to check on suspicious people entering Sesheke district, outgoing area governor Mr Boniface Mapani has said.

He said in an interview that Sesheke was extremely sensitive and this prompted the Government to set up the check points.

He emphasised that the checks were "routine" and had nothing to do with the Nkomati agreement signed between Mozambique and South Africa under which the two countries have pledged to stop being used for attacks on either territory.

"We can't allow anybody to use Sesheke as an entry point into Namibia or South Africa," Mr Mapani said.

He said Zambians who had relatives in Namibia were carrying "distorted" information about Zambia and this was worrying the Party and its Government.

Travellers were now required to produce national registration cards or passports at the roadblocks manned by immigration officials and police.

"Because of the wrong information the Zambians take into Namibia, the security situation is bad."

There was nothing unusual about the roadblocks since in the past they were manned by the Zambia Army, but because people complained of being harassed by soldiers it was decided to bring in immigration and police officers instead.

Mr Mapani would not say if any "infiltrators" had been caught since the roadblocks were started about three weeks ago.

"All I can say is that they are paying dividends. They are very useful as you know that Sesheke is a very sensitive place."

The first check point is at Kazungula turn-off, the second is midway between Livingstone and Sesheke and the third one is on the Katima Mulilo pontoon.

One immigration officer at the pontoon said instructions had come from Lusaka.

On development, Mr Mapani said this was at a standstill because lending institutions were reluctant to invest in an "insecure" area.

The presence of South African soldiers across the Zambezi River in Namibia had scared away investors.

The only sources of income for the council was cattle and fish levy, market and abattoir fees.

"We have a lot of good development plans, but these are being hampered by lack of cash."

CSO: 3400/942

ACADEMIC SCORES GOVERNMENT DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English 28 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] UNIVERSITY of Zambia Vice-Cancellor, Dr Jacob Mwanza yesterday criticized the trend in which the government formulates national policies and decisions without taking into account valuable inputs and analytical capabilities from professionals.

Addressing a workshop on "the Zambian economy: problems and prospects"--held at the Commonwealth Youth Centre in Lusaka, Dr Mwanza expressed concern at the widening gap between academicians and bureaucrats and policy makers in the government.

He cited an example of workshops and conferences held by University departments in which people from the government rarely participate and where government institutions have held similar events in which the involvement of professionals is insignificant.

"The result is that decisions are taken and policies are formulated by the government without the potential valuable inputs and analytical capabilities from the most educated and highly trained members of society.

"On the other hand, academicians get criticised for doing little more than conducting a post-mortem of the government's decisions and policies," he said.

Dr Mwansa said research has shown that the unfavourable external factors have contributed greatly to the present state of the economy and that there was need to restructure the economy for it not to be vulnerable to these outside forces.

He however, pointed out that internal policies have to some extent contributed also to the state of the economy adding: "Given the operations of these external factors over which the nation has little control, our task should be to see what measures can be taken domestically to ensure the country's optimum development."

He pointed out the economy has undergone very little structural change since independence. There has been very little diversification in the country's sources of foreign exchange.

He noted that even after two decades of independence, copper still continues to dominate the national economy as a major foreign exchange earner.

He said the manufacturing industry is characterised by a production structure which is largely based on imported capital, intensive technology and imported inputs making the sector import-dependent.

The increasing demand for foreign exchange by the manufacturing industry to import its increasing expensive inputs, machinery and spare parts has led to considerable underutilisation of the sector, he said.

In view of this unfortunate situation, Dr Mwanza said, there was need to re-structure the economy so as to make it more self-reliant and insulate it from the adverse effects of the external environment.

"Although such a restructuring cannot be achieved overnight, I hope that the seminar and subsequent follow-up discussions will indicate suitable policy measures that would effectively and in an expeditious manner revive the economy".

Regarding the number of participants to the seminar which is jointly organised by the Department of Business and Economics at the University and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada, Dr Mwanza said he was encouraged to note that there would be intellectual sharing of ideas.

He said that such a workshop could pave the way for a regional meeting which among other things, was another important way in which Zambia and her neighbours could protect themselves against the adverse effects of the international environment.

And Senior Economist with the Bank of Zambia Mr D. Chitundu said the Agriculture Finance Company (AFC) is riddled with financial problems mainly due to its poor records in recovering loans.

Mr Chitundu said in a paper he presented to the workshop that loan recovery and funding of AFC's lending operations were inadequate.

The factors accounting for the poor record of loan recovery, he said, resulted from inadequate scrutiny of loan applicants.

Borrowers are given money by the Company without adequate scrutiny of loan applicants.

Borrowers are given money by the Company without adequate scrutiny to determine their reputation for honesty and for ability to repay.

Cataloguing some of the tricks used by bad debtors, Mr Chitundu said: "To avoid repaying their loans to AFC, some farmers avoid delivering their produce to NAMEBOARD in their own names. They register deliveries in their relative's or friend's names."

Some debtors, he said, secure more than one delivery number, "in which case only one number is honoured as the marketing organisation buys the produce and transfers the remittances to AFC on the strength of that one delivery".

Going by the available data, Mr Chitundu said, the provisions made for bad and doubtful debts in the last three years have been very heavy and averaged 43 per cent of the outstanding loans.

CSO: 3400/942

INCREASED INTEREST IN PARTY ELECTIONS WELCOMED

Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English 26 Apr 84 p 4

[Article by Wellington Kalwisha]

[Text] SUDDENLY the lethargies that characterised phases one and two of the Party local level elections have been swept away and, if Sunday's heavy nomination turn-out is anything to go by, then today's nation-wide ward polls should prove a fitting climax to a most important political activity.

Going by the fervent run-up exercise the culminated in an unusually large field of men and women taking to the hustings after Sunday's nominations by successful applicants then an equally heavy poll should be on the cards today and few contestants will go unchallenged.

During the last three days most of those who successfully filed their election papers, according to reports from some parts of the country, were busy ensuring that nothing is left to change when the hour of reckoning dawns today. The intensity of the actual electioneering has been difficult to determine because, by their nature, local level elections are "Closed Contests."

But, contrary to popular opinion, these particular local elections, even when seen against the rough and tumble of parliamentary polls, have suddenly generated a considerable amount of interest. And true to tradition there has been an evident sense of camaraderie or, as the American would say, razz-matazz, that distinguishes grassroot elections from the stirring contests for parliament.

And it is this camaraderie that often deceives casual onlookers as to the elaborateness of these Party affairs; unless one is in the thick of it Party local polls usually attract less outside attention. But then, as is often argued, because they are "neighbourhood affairs" ~~they~~ "neighbourhood affairs" therein lies their importance--as the "roots"--of the Party.

If Lusaka Urban, the nation's political nerve centre, can be taken as the epitome of the enthusiasm that the elections have aroused then that is testimony to what, for instance Lusaka Provincial Political Secretary, Mr Fenwick Chifunda, said on television this week about the growing popularity of the Party at the grassroots level.

Mr Chifunda, who was reviewing the nominations exercise, also allayed fears that the few vetted applications were victims of favouritism. He said the composition of the committee that was responsible for vetting was so wide that the question of citimisation on any ground could not even arise. He emphasised that the Party was not vindictive and the few that were vetted could have no grounds for complaints.

Early returns after nominations recorded 91 candidates as having properly entered the contest for ward chairmanship in Lusaka's 30 wards with Kalingalinga, which incidentally is one of the oldest then unauthorised settlements in town, having topped the list of heavily contested wards--half a dozen are in the running for the ward chairmanship in the area.

Only Munali and Lilayi, according to early returns, had candidates for the chairmanship retained unopposed while the rest of the city reported heavy contests that are likely to produce neck and neck races for the top post.

Initial indications from the rest of the country showed a similar pattern to Lusaka with more people vying for the chairmanship. Unlike other lesser posts, the ward chairman will be voted in by all eligible voters in a particular ward while candidates for the rest of the posts will be elected by Party officials in the ward.

Political pundits have credited the acting chairman of the Elections and Publicity Committee, Mr Fines Bulawayo, for removing the election lethargy at the local levels. He has behaved more like a candidate himself not only barn-storming the country to publicise the election but also actually talking down to hopefuls on the importance of their candidature.

Mr Bulawayo's task has not been made any easier by his doubling as MCC in charge of the nation's capital but, by the close of the run-up to today's electoral exercise, election watchers were unanimous that his role has been vital to breathing life into the elections.

It has not been plain sailing, however, for in the heat of the drive Mr Bulawayo has said some things which have raised eyebrows in some quarters, including parliament.

A case in point is his announcement that ward elections will be postponed in areas where incumbents have been sent overseas for training. The member of Parliament for Bweengwa, Mr Rex Natala, queried whether the Party was in order to deprive people in areas where incumbents are abroad the right to vote.

The MP contended that the announcement by Mr Bulawayo was tantamount to denying people in wards where elections will be put off the right to exercise their vote. "Is the Party in order to breach the Constitution and make such undemocratic announcements? Are we now making laws to suit individuals and not the society?" the MP asked.

However, the matter was amicably and effectively brought to a close when the Spaker, Mr Robinson Nabulyato, explained that he could not rule over the

decision of the Party and that, therefore, the matter was not for Parliament to debate. He said Parliament should not deliberate on how the Party conducts its affairs.

He opened yet another Pandora's box, observers say, when he hinted that in future workers in the public service might be required to resign their offices when they intend to contest Parliamentary elections, must as is the case with members of the defence forces. Was this not a turnabout in Party policy, it was asked. In the past civil servants were allowed to take leave of absence if contesting elections for Parliament so that those not successful could retain their jobs after the elections.

And Mr Bulawayo appeared to stir yet another hornet's nest when he confirmed the barring of Council employees from contesting the chairmanship in the ward elections. Unionists contested this decision arguing that it was unfair to single out Council workers as being ineligible for one post in the ward elections.

The MCC appeared undeterred by the criticisms apparently taking it all in his stride as he toured the country to mobilise the nation's grassroot leadership to make the most of the ward elections. Constructive criticism is, after all, an important tenet in the workings of Zambia's one-Party participatory democracy.

The substance of Mr Bulawayo's message during his tour of the country has been, by and large, the same one he broadcast to the nation last month at the launching of the section and branch elections that preceded today's polls for ward leaders. At each turn he has ruled out the postponement of the elections, except in very difficult operational circumstances.

He has said the Party will not allow itself to be held to ransom by people demanding for postponement because there is no reason why a faithful Party follower should not have renewed membership in time. "We are not going to hand over the Party to unknowns. The Party is not for those who want to join it in order just to be leaders."

And as the two-month local level electoral process reaches its climax today, with both the section and branch contests having gone smoothly last month, there is still debate in enlightened political circles over the duration of the entire process.

One political school of thought argues to the effect that the duration is unnecessarily long while the counter is offered in the form of examples of other democratic processes which are far much longer and more complex.

A commonly cited example of a complex electoral procedure is the on-going exercise in the United States which lasts almost an entire 12 months with the only difference being in that the US process culminates in the election of a President in November of every fourth year.

Other than electing a President, the Americans, during the same process, elect a third of the senate, all of the House of Representatives, a quarter of the state governors, most of the state legislatures, a host of mayors, judges, councilmen, country commissioners and attorneys-general. Additionally the same voters take part in referendums on a variety of measures.

The demands placed on the American voter are so heavy that they can in no way be compared to the simple straight-forward one party participatory democratic system that obtain in this country. For in the US the series include primary elections and state caucuses in which delegates are chosen to attend Party's national conventions. In fact, the campaign for nomination is quite different from the campaign for general Presidential election.

Neither would it be accurate to draw a parallel between the American electoral system to what goes on in Zambia during the Party's General Conference at Mulungushi Rock of Authority at which delegates vote for the Party President and members of the Central Committee.

At the Rock of Authority, where 5,000-odd delegates converge every five years for the UNIP Convention, first the National Council meets to elect a Presidential candidate and approve a list of nomination for the Central Committee submitted by the Party President. Only after the Council's approval are the names then taken to the General Conference for election.

CSO: 3400/942

ZADB ALLOCATES FUNDS FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English 25 Apr 84 p 3

[Text] THE ZAMBIA Agricultural Development Bank (ZADB) has granted the Zambia National Service (ZNS) K1.2 million for agricultural development throughout the country.

This was said yesterday by ZADB chairman, Mr Kapasa Makasa, when he addressed government and parastatal chief executives from Lusaka province at the Civic Centre.

He said that the amount given to the ZNS is part of about K3 million which the bank has given out as loans during the past six months of its operations.

Mr Makasa also explained that the bank has three types of loan facilities namely short, medium and long term.

Short term loans are for six to 24 months and are mainly for the purchase of production inputs, meeting cultivation costs and for payment of irrigation and water charges.

The medium term loans are recoverable from two to six years and are for the purchase of livestock, farm implements and for land improvement schemes. These loans can also be used for improving storage facilities and purchase of fishing materials.

Long term loans which are repayable between six to 20 years with a grace period of three years are mainly for purchase of land, farm development, construction of farm buildings and dams and other infrastructure intended to increase food production.

Earlier, Mr Makasa said that certain conditions imposed by food exporting countries can be harmful to the economic development of recipient nations.

Mr Makasa who was winding up his tour of provinces which he began early this year, warned that some of the conditions demanded by food exporters were detrimental to the receiving countries.

It is in this regard he re-emphasised the need for Zambians to seriously consider the significance of agriculture in the economy of the country.

He said valuable foreign exchange would continue to be spent on food imports if there was an imbalance in food production and population growth.

Continuation of this situation, would even compel the food importing countries to adopt population limitation measures, Mr Makasa said, adding that there would be no justification for that in Zambia, where there ~~are~~ abundant natural resources.

Sufficient food would sustain many agro related industries which could provide more employment opportunities for the people, the Chairman pointed out.

Mr Makasa reminded the meeting that the Party and its government realised the importance of a farmer soon after independence after noting the discriminatory policies of the colonial government.

Whereas the colonial administration neglected certain provinces, the Party and its government introduced efforts aimed at exploring the agricultural potentiality of all provinces in Zambia.

"Provinces which were ignored such as the Northern, Luapula, Western and some areas of the Central provinces have proved to be suitable for large scale agriculture," Mr Makasa said.

Because the authorities are aware that a farmer is a national asset, they have provided him with incentives to assist him in his endeavours to grow as many crops as possible.

The most notable institutions set up for this purpose ~~are~~ the Agriculture Finance Company (AFC) and Zambia Agricultural Development Bank which are there to give assistance in terms of loans.

Mr Makasa stated that these financial institutions were open to every Zambian interested in taking up farming. He however warned that only those who complied with the requirements of the financial bodies will readily be helped.

He stressed that for the lending organisations to look into loan applications, the applicant must be able to convince them that he has acquired the land where he plans to grow crops.

CSO: 3400/942

DETAILS ON WARD CHAIRMAN CANDIDATES GIVEN

Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English 24 Apr 84 p 3

[Text] NINETY-one aspiring candidates for the post of ward chairman in Lusaka Urban have successfully filed their nomination papers in readiness for the elections, returning officer, Mr Christopher Bowa, said yesterday.

He said of all the wards in the district, Kalingalinga was the most heavily contested with six candidates fighting for the post of ward chairman.

He said out of the 30 wards three ward chairmen have stood unopposed.

Mr Bowa also said that there will not be any elections in Shiwangandu Ward because the incumbent ward chairman, is out of the country.

He said the other wards were also heavily contested except in Munali and Lilayi where most of the candidates went through unopposed.

In Livingstone reports on ward election nominations were yesterday still trickling to electoral officers from the rural areas in various parts of Southern Province because of transport and communications problems.

Electoral officers contacted in Choma, Monze, Namwala, Gwembe, Mazabuka and Kalomo could not give the exact figures on the number of candidates contesting the elections because of communications break-down.

Choma electoral officer, Mr Richard Simuchoba said he had not yet received all the nomination papers from returning officers in the 21 rural wards while Mazabuka officers were still compiling the data.

Reports from Gwembe say the exercise could take a few more days to complete because of impassable roads in many areas, although everything possible was being done to speed up the process.

Namwala and Monze also reported that apart from the few township wards, nomination papers had not yet arrived from the remote parts of the districts.

Meanwhile, ZANA reports that the filing of nominations for Party ward elections in 20 wards in Mansa district went on well on Sunday, according to elections officer, Mr Musonda Kainga.

Mr Kainga said according to reports received by his office from assistant returning officers who were in the field, no complaints had been received about candidates failing or being stopped from filing their nominations by other candidates.

He said his officers yesterday started to deliver the equipment to various wards in readiness for elections on April 26 and 27.

In Mufulira, two adopted candidates for ward chairmanship failed to file their nomination papers.

The two failed to raise the required number of supporters between 07.00 hours and 17.00 hours when the nominations exercise was carried out.

Mufulira district governor, Mr Boyd Kaseunga confirmed this yesterday, saying the two men he did not identify by names nor the wards they intended to contest, had been to his office over the issue.

Mr Kaseunga, confirmed the non-adoption of five former ward chairmen and district councillors by the provincial Party committee barring them from contesting the elections.

In Luanshya, five former ward chairmen are among 23 aspiring candidates who have been dropped by the Copperbelt Provincial leadership from contesting ward elections, area Governor Mr Peter Lishika said yesterday.

He said several candidates from the Women and Youth Leagues were also among those who were vetted.

Mr Lishika said 464 candidates had applied for adoption by the Provincial Secretary Committee.

In Ndola a pre-ward election rally will be held today in the Broadway Cinema to introduce candidates to voters.

District youth chairman, Mr Martin Mukompa said yesterday that the meeting would be held to give guidelines to candidates in readiness for Thursday's ward elections.

The rally would replace a series of meetings which were supposed to be held in all the district's 27 wards but have been cancelled because of other pressing issues.

Mr Mukompa has asked employers to release the candidates from work to attend the meeting.

CSO: 3400/942

GREED OF PARTY OLD-TIMERS DENOUNCED

Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English 19 Apr 84 p 3

[Text]

THE PARTY is not well organised at all levels because of some greedy old-timers who cannot allow young and intelligent people to join the system, acting chairman of elections and publicity committee, Mr Fines Bulawayo, charged in Livingstone yesterday.

Speaking when he addressed governors and district political secretaries from all the districts in Southern Province at the Southern Province member of the Central Committee's boardroom, Mr Bulawayo said there were a lot of young and intelligent people who were capable of organising the Party but they were left to loiter in the streets by some greedy 'old-timers.'

He warned that any country which did not groom young people to take over leadership was a dead nation and would not prosper in any fields of human endeavour.

Mr Bulawayo, who is also Lusaka Province member of the Central Committee, said that the political honeymoon for leaders in the country was over and time had come for them to work hard and diligently, to implement Party programmes.

He said that in Zambia many leaders were good at planning programmes and strategies, "but when it comes to implementing those programmes we start pointing fingers at each other."

The MCC said that many leaders had relaxed so much that they no longer bothered to go out in the field to organise the people.

"We are now satisfied with our independence which we achieved in 1964 and have decided to be administrators instead of organisers."

Mr Bulawayo, who has already toured seven provincial centres to find out problems of sections, branches and ward elections, and screening of aspiring candidates.

He said that since ward elections were very crucial in the future development of the country and decentralisation system of government, governors should not be biased in all their dealings with aspiring candidates.

"The ward elections should be clean, and free from nepotism, tribalism, favouritism and other vices. We don't want the name of the Party to be tarnished by aggrieved aspiring candidates who would seek the court of law to nullify the elections because of gross misconduct," he said.

The MCC warned that the Party would boot out from the system any ward chairman who was on record to have been engaged in hiding cards and receipts for his own glory.

"After the ward elections we will carry out a systematic post-mortem of the ward elections aimed at screening out thorns which infiltrated the Party through dubious means," Mr Bulawayo said.

Mr Bulawayo appealed to the governors and their political secretaries to work flat out to maintain up-to-date records of Party membership in the districts.

"Do not depend on the fictitious records presented to you by your officers because in the past there were some sections which were formed in theory but practically they were not there," he said.

He also called for unity, love, hard work and competence among all the Party organisers to achieve development in all the fields of human endeavour.

CSO: 3400/942

POLITICAL INTERFERENCE IN PARASTATAL OPERATIONS SCORED

Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English 30 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] UNDUE political interference in the operations of parastatal financial institutions in the country has contributed to the worsening national economy, Director of the Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO) Dr Chiselebwe Ng'andwe charged at the weekend.

Dr Ng'andwe said the institutions have failed to contribute positively to the national economy because they are riddled with corruption and inefficiency.

He said part of the problem in the institutions arose from the inadequacies in technical skills and experience of some of the personnel who hold key positions. Other problems are from undue political interference in the operations of these institutions.

Dr Ng'andwe said this in a paper presented at the just ended workshop on "The Zambian Economy: Problems and Prospects" held at the Commonwealth Youth Centre in Lusaka.

He said: "The result is that most parastatal institutions have been burdened with bad debts which tend to stifle their contribution to the development process."

He cited an example of the Industrial Finance Company which had no flow of funds from its old borrowers to finance new borrowers in 1976 and the Zambia National Commercial Bank which had an estimated K10 million bad and doubtful debts in 1978.

"These problems need to be watched if the parastatal finance houses are to make their expected contributions to the economy."

Dr Ng'andwe called on the Development Bank of Zambia (DBZ) to change its lending policies which at present favoured large-scale enterprises.

He said because of this biased policy, most of its borrowers were not indigenous Zimbians.

He also urged the Bank of Zambia to swing more credit to small-scale entrepreneurs and indigenous Zambians without discouraging large-scale industries.

--A University of Zambia lecturer has said there is need to scrutinize the general direction of economic development if agriculture is to contribute to the economy.

Mr K Mulenga says so far the position of agriculture in Zambia's economy was still weak mainly because the pattern of modernisation had been through manufacturing and industrialisation.

CSO: 3400/942

ROLE OF UNIP WARD LEADERS, VOTERS' RESPONSIBILITY REVIEWED

Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English 23 Apr 84 p 4

[Editorial]

[Text] THE UNITED National Independence Party [UNIP] is not supreme because of the power wielded by the Central Committee but because of the men and women running sections, branches and wards.

This is the important fact which candidates who filed their nominations papers for the ward elections yesterday must bear in mind. Leaders at these levels of the Party should in fact be the custodians of Party policies.

Unfortunately, ward chairmen and their deputies have in the past relapsed into some form of timidity and they have witnessed UNIP policies being destroyed or hijacked without a fight.

Some people have contested [and they might even be contesting] elections even when they have no idea about the policies of the Party or the meaning of the philosophy of Humanism.

They admire a capitalist leader amidst the poverty within their sections, branches or wards. Ideology is an alien to them as kachasu is to an ardent Moslem or Hindu.

This might be a harsh assumption, but the past 19 years have taught us that the majority of our leaders, especially those at the grassroots level, have not understood the policies of the Party.

They are hard-working men and women but they lack proper direction and this explains why some of them get involved in evils like blackmarketeering, corruption and smuggling.

But time has come when the Party must reverse the trend and the only people who can bring some humanism sanity to our political, economic and social system are the voters.

They should vote for people dedicated to the philosophy of Humanism and not merely for hardworking people because some individuals can work hard to destroy the Party and its policies.

UNIP has the unfortunate position [it is fortunate in some cases] of being a mass party. It has, therefore, many impurities which the loyal and dedicated Party member must remove.

But the voter in the ward does not have an easy task because every candidate parrots praises which could turn Zambia into a socialist state over night even when he is as opposed to socialism as a member of the Republican Party in the United States.

We should, however, try and try hard to choose honest leaders--leaders who understand Party policies and people who will stand up and be counted when Party policies are being thrown overboard.

The voters should also put into power people who understand the meaning of the decentralised system of government. The system needs members who can plan for projects which can generate funds for the councils.

Many councils are on the verge of collapsing financially because some councillors think that the Government has always got the financial magic wand.

CSO: 3400/942



REORGANIZATION OF RDC MARKETING PROPOSIT

Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English 26 Apr 84 p 5

[Text] THE PARTY and its government might decide to abandon the Rural Development Corporation (RDC) and prefer private companies if its marketing policy does not improve.

RDC managing director, Mr Hosea Ngwane said the marketing approach of the corporation had to be aggressive if it had to beat private firms in the country.

Mr Mgwane said this at the opening of a three-day marketing management seminar for the RDC Group of Companies at the Professional Centre in Lusaka yesterday.

"For sometime now, I have been worried with the approach to marketing because most of the market that we had have been lost to private sectors. The present market at the moment has fierce competition from others," he said.

The managing director warned ~~that~~ should the position of marketing within the RDC Group not improve as compared to the private sector, the Party and its Government would not hesitate to abandon the organisation in preference to private companies.

"Should this happen, then we're sunk and there will be no way in which we can justify ourselves as a public organisation and there is no way in which we can be in existence if there is no way we can make ourselves exist," he said.

He reminded the 20 participants drawn from six RDC subsidiaries that since the Party and its Government could not continue subsidising them it was important that they tried by all means to generate the required funds.

Although the Government and individuals owed his company money it was up to the RDC Group to minimise such credits and increase cash sales.

He reminded the marketing managers that no organisation could continue running on an overdraft because this was expensive.

Mr Ngwane also pointed out that RDC, like other parastatal companies, had lost a reliable market due to the increased repatriation of refugees following the independence of their countries.

The other contributing factor, he added; was the small number of freedom fighters in the country and these had camps very far from provincial headquarters.

The market available at the moment was so small that it had to be shared with other companies which created a "fierce" competition.

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IMPORTANCE OF TAZARA SIGNALLED

Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English 24 Apr 84 p 4

[Editorial]

[Text] IT IS now almost ten years since the Chinese-built Tanzania-Zambia Railway [TAZARA] between the two sister republics was commissioned.

Since then economic relations between Zambia and Tanzania have been enhanced than was the case before the Great Uhuru line came into being.

Equally important for land-locked Zambia is the fact that TAZARA has enabled her to have a reliable life-line to the sea for exports and imports.

Past experience has proved that it is folly to rely on one or two outlets to the sea for the country's international trade.

However, the construction of TAZARA was not only meant to foster trade relations between Zambia and Tanzania but also to enable Zambia to have more routes to the sea. It was also the intention of the countries involved in the scheme, Zambia, Tanzania and China to open up for development, the area in which the line passes.

Already, some enterprising people, many of them farmers, have moved nearer to the line but many more have been discouraged because of the absence of marketing points for their produce to the ready markets in urban areas.

It is against this background that we welcome the announcement by the governor attached to TAZARA, Mr Mathew Mapulanga, that marketing depots at all railway stations on the Uhuru line are to be established.

With the ever-rising prices of fuel, shortage of tyres for vehicles and poor roads in some areas, it must surely be time to make maximum use of TAZARA for the haulage of produce.

Another boon to the farmers intending to use TAZARA is that although the company has been in business for nearly ten year now, its tariff rates are still comparatively low.

The establishment of marketing union depots at the TAZARA railway stations may also wipe out the misconception held by most people staying along the line that the project was built to transport copper and other industrial goods only.

We note that on the other side of the line, in Tanzania, the government has already issued a directive that its four southern regions of Iringa, Mbeya, Tuvuma and Tukwa should ferry their respective fertiliser and agricultural produce through TAZARA.

The move is already paying dividends because large pile-ups of agricultural produce from the regions is a thing of the past and prompt supply of fertiliser to the farmers is ensured.

We hope that people living along the line will take up the challenge and make use of the line otherwise it will continue to be under-utilised thereby rendering TAZARA commercially unviable.

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VALUE OF MINERAL PRODUCTION REPORTED

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 18 Apr 84 p 2

[Text]

TOTAL value of minerals produced in Zambia in 1983 is about K1.1 billion, according to figures compiled by the Central Statistical Office in Lusaka.

Information contained in "Zambia in figures 1983" shows that although the total volume of minerals produced in the previous year was greater at about 1,241,000 tonnes compared with the 1983 figure of just over one million tonnes, the total value of the minerals was greater in 1983 probably because of improved copper prices.

It shows that Zambia last year produced about 589,000 tonnes of electrolytic copper valued at K1,105,255,000 followed by zinc and cobalt at K34 million each, and coal K17 million.

The list of principal export goods for 1982 says copper exports totalled about K856 million followed by cobalt K30 million, zinc K25 million, lead K4 million and tobacco K2 million.

The publication confirms that in 1981 Zambian exports to countries of the European Economic Community (EEC) excluding Britain stood at K281 million compared to imports of about K282 million.

While exports to Britain during the year stood at about K70 million Zambia imported goods totalling

close to K144 million in a negative balance of trade.

On generation of electricity, the report shows that while more than 10 million kwh were produced in 1983 only six million kwh were consumed resulting in a surplus of four million kwh for exports.

But according to latest reports, Zimbabwe which is Zambia's biggest market for hydro-electric power has now started talks with Mozambique aimed at securing imports of electricity from Cabora Bassa station to counter Zambia's "economic stranglehold" over Zimbabwe's energy requirements.

Zambia and Zimbabwe share the Kariba south bank power station through the jointly owned Central Africa Power Corporation and it is understood that Zimbabwe pays about K2 million foreign exchange to Zambia a month for imports of power.

But after scouting the Mozambican market, Zimbabwean energy resources and development minister Dr Oliver Munyaradzi told Harare reporters on Monday: "We looked at the electricity supply situation in Mozambique and Zimbabwe and soon our officials will meet to discuss the question of our imports of electricity."

BRIEFS

BORDER SECURITY TALKS—SECURITY officials from Zambia and Zaire began week-long talks in Kitwe yesterday aimed at finding solutions to security problems along the two countries' common frontier. The talks which are taking place at the Civic Centre are likely to tackle the issue of smuggling and crime. A high-powered team of Zairean officials arrived in the city on Sunday afternoon after being met at the border by their Zambian counterparts. Officials from both sides were tight-lipped on the issues to be discussed during the talks. Copperbelt Police Chief, Mr Julius Zulu who is chairman of the committee refused to comment on the meeting when approached by newsmen. Mr Zulu travelled to Zaire two weeks ago with Copperbelt member of the Central Committee, Mr Alex Shapi, for informal talks with Zairean leaders. It was after their return that it was announced that the security meeting would be held in Kitwe. The Zambia-Zaire Joint Permanent Commission is scheduled for June. The talks are also likely to be routine as security along the border has improved greatly since President Kaunda ordered the deployment of army to the area. Residents and Party and government officials from the border towns have of late expressed satisfaction at the way banditry and smuggling have been reduced following the government move. [Text] [Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English 24 Apr 84 p 1]

OIL IMPORTS FINANCED—ZAMBIA has obtained a loan of about K130 million to finance this year's crude oil imports, a Bank of Zambia spokesman announced in Lusaka yesterday. He said the loan was given to the Bank by a consortium of banks in London led and managed by the Bank of America International Limited. The spokesman said that the loan is meant to finance importation of about 720,000 tonnes of crude oil and petroleum products requirements during 1984/85. The crude oil and petroleum products are to be imported according to an agreement signed between the government and Shell International Trading Company. The oil will be delivered in eight separate shipments evenly spread over the current year, the spokesman explained. The spokesman named the other participating banks as the Bank of America National Trust and Savings Association, Standard Chartered Bank PLC, Citibank, N.A., Arab Banking Corporation, Barclays Bank International Limited, Grindlays Bank PLC, the Sumitomo Bank Limited, the Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A. [Text] [Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English 24 Apr 84 p 1]

SEVERE FAMINE THREAT—SEVERE famine is threatening 20 villages in Imusho, Ngwezi and Silola area where food supplies have almost run out. Out-going

Shesheke district governor MR Boniface Mapani said in an interview in Shesheke that although some bags of maize could be made available, there was no suitable transport to take the food to the villagers. "The army trucks which were being used have no fuel and we have no funds to buy some. The situation is pathetic," he said. Meanwhile, Mr Mapani said that reports of smuggling of essentials into Namibia by Zambians continued to pour into his office. But it was difficult to control the situation because Zambia did not have defined crossing points with Namibia. "It is unfortunate that despite appeals to Zambians not to cross at will into Namibia, the appeal has fallen on deaf ears. The locals have let us down." [Excerpt] [Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 22 Apr 84 p 1]

CZECH TEAM VISITS—MEMBER of the secretariat of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, Mrs Marie Kabrhelova arrived in Livingstone for a two-day visit to the tourist capital. Mrs Kabrhelova who is also president of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovakia Union of women and her entourage later drove to Maramba Cultural Villages where they watched traditional dances. From the Maramba Cultural Village the visiting central committee member was taken to the Victoria Falls bridge, the knife edge where she viewed the mighty Victoria Falls, Victoria Falls. Before winding up her tour of the district, Mrs Kabrhelova was expected to visit the zoological park, the Livingstone Museum, the Railways Women Centre, and the Victoria Falls handicraft display centre. [Text] [Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English 25 Apr 84 p 5]

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MUGABE REASSURES ASIANS OF FUTURE IN NATION

Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 15 Apr 84 p 2

[Text] The Prime Minister, Cde Robert Mugabe, has assured Zimbabweans of foreign origins that they will not be removed from the country as long as they abide by the laws of the country.

He was speaking last night at a banquet organised by the Zimbabwe Asian Trust to raise funds for the forthcoming independence celebrations.

Cde Mugabe said he did not believe that the circumstances that had led to the "drastic measures" of the expulsion of Asians and other aliens from other countries prevailed in Zimbabwe.

In a speech met by tremendous applause from the predominantly Asian audience, Cde Mugabe said: "We are one; we belong to one another. There is no reason why we should doubt each other; and who am I to say to you this is not your home when you have made it your home?"

He assured members of all minority groups that they were members of one unified nation. "Zimbabwe is your country. Take pride in it as you have already done," he said.

The Asian community in Harare is to raise about \$50 000 to build a new clinic in the capital.

Already \$42 000 has been collected, fundraisers at last night's dinner said.

"This clinic will be a permanent contribution from the Asians for the benefit of all future Zimbabweans and it will also be in line with the Government's objective of providing health services for all Zimbabweans by the year 1990," a member of the ad hoc committee of the Zimbabwe Asian Trust said yesterday.

The exact site of the new clinic will be decided once all the money had been collected. "There is a plan at a later stage to build further clinics. The requirements are in the rural areas."

It is also envisaged that when the clinic starts operating, Asian doctors "will from time to time be giving free service."

In the past the community has provided funds to the Nyatsime College, the Cold Comfort farm, the Jairos Jiri Association, St Giles, the Cancer Association, and the Zimbabwe Rehabilitation Trust.

Three cheques of \$1 000 each were presented to the chairman of the working party of the independence celebrations and State Visits Committee Cde Emmerson Munangagwa. The cheques are for the celebrations fund, Zanu (PF) headquarters building fund and the August party congress.

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MINERALS MARKETING CORPORATION AVERAGING \$1 MILLION DAILY EXPORTS

Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 13 Apr 84 pp 1, 2

[Text] Exports of Zimbabwe's Minerals Marketing Corporation (MMC) have been averaging \$1 million a day over the last eight months. This was stated by Mr Mark Rule, the general manager of the corporation when he was interviewed this week, shortly after the MCC's first year of operation.

"We have sold minerals worth \$240m over the last eight months," Mr Rule said, "and we will by the end of this financial year have realised our promise to be a self-sustaining enterprise, operating without cost to government or taxpayer."

The MMC is entitled, under the terms of its regulations, to a commission of 0,875% on the sales of minerals that it undertakes on behalf of Zimbabwe's producers. "At present we are in a position where a small net profit will be made," Mr Rule told The Gazette. The MMC hope to build up a reserve which could be used to insure against risks and also to meet the corporation's expenses during periods of poor business.

Asked what he thought the future held for Zimbabwe's mineral exports, Mr Rule said, "Overall, the world market could be regarded as merely reasonable, but I would expect a gradual upward movement to occur in the near future."

Mr Rule said the recovery in the United Staes and Japan must soon have a greater effect on mineral exports. "Prices have been below cost for some time now, and there must be a recovery sooner or later."

Ferrochrome, he said, was a useful overall reflection of the situation. This is used in the manufacture of stainless steel which is at present running at better levels in the United States and Japan.

"Stainless steel is used both in the manufacture of consumer goods and plant machinery," Mr Rule said. "If consumption of stainless steel is increasing, it seems reasonable to expect that other areas of manufacturing will grow also."

Mr Rule said that the price of ferrochrome had increased markedly over the last ten months. Although prices were below their peak, they were 20% above the price-trough at the middle of last year. "Ferrochrome is our best performer at present," Mr Rule said, "and I would forecast that prices will continue to increase until at least the end of this year."

Reviewing some of Zimbabwe's individual mineral exports, Mr Rule said asbestos was affected by both the world recession and an alleged health hazard connected with its use. "At the moment this is more of a problem than our other minerals," he said.

Copper sales were regular but international prices remained poor. There was a world oversupply of this metal and the only increases he could forecast were those which were dictated by costs, plus "the usual London Metal Exchange fluctuations."

Coal exports were basically to countries in southern African region and at the moment, the volumes were low. Tin was selling at a respectable price at present but Mr Rule commented that this was "somewhat artificial" as it was principally due to buffer-stock buying.

Lithium and graphite exports he described as "reasonable only," in terms of volume and price.

Dealing with the three strategic minerals, tungsten, beryl and tantalite, Mr Rule said that tungsten ore volume was up on last year but the price was weak, while the small volume of beryl available for export was achieving only passable prices.

The tantalite price had fallen by 75% from its peak and since an alternative monolithic ceramic capacitor had been developed, was unlikely to recover. "The development of an alternative occurred because of what was probably an unreasonably high price. It is doubtful whether tantalite will recover its former volume in the foreseeable future."

Responsible

Mr Rule said the MMC was also responsible for the export sales of iron and steel from the Ziscosteel works at Redcliff. "We have no difficulty in placing Ziscosteel's output, but the world market is depressed. The prices are not good, but one of our major considerations is the retention of our markets and the maintenance of foreign-currency earnings," said Mr Rule.

Asked how relations with the mineral producers in Zimbabwe had developed during the MMC's first year of operation, Mr Rule said, "These are generally very friendly and co-operative. The major producers made it known that they did not welcome the introduction of the MMC, but since it became a fact, they had accepted this. There is a great deal of co-operation between the MMC and the mineral producers."

Turning to overseas contacts, Mr Rule said that relations with the outside world were good. "We are dealing broadly with the same people who dealt with individual producers and have been accepted as a respectable trading organisation."

AGRICULTURE MINISTER'S NEW CROP PRODUCER PRICES

Bulawayo THE CHRONICLE in English 12 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] The price of maize to be delivered to the Grain Marketing Board this season has been pegged at the pre-planting price of \$140 a tonne set last August, but there is a promise that this will be reviewed in due course.

The Minister of Agriculture, Senator Denis Norman, said at a Press conference yesterday that mhunga, rapoko and edible beans had also been brought under control because of their importance in the agricultural sector.

Before the conference, Sen Norman conferred with the president of the Commercial Farmers' Union, Mr John Laurie, the president of the Zimbabwe National Farmers' Union, Cde Garv Magadzire, and the president of the National Farmers' Association of Zimbabwe, Cde Robinson Gapare.

They were all disappointed with Sen Norman's producer price package.

The increase per tonne with last August's base in brackets is: Class A naked maize \$140 (\$140); Class A naked sorghum \$140 (\$140); Class A1 shelled groundnuts \$500 (\$450); Class B soya beans \$287 (\$287); Class A sunflower seed \$285 (\$285); Class As wheat \$250 (\$250); Class A cotton seed 57¢ a kg (57c a kg).

Prices for new controlled commodities are Class A mhunga \$250 per tonne naked; Class A rapoko \$300; and Class A edible beans \$450.

An increase of 15 percent in the price schedule remains as previously announced with effect from March 1 this year.

The producer price of milk is to be determined following adjustments to the selling price of controlled products which will affect the producer's input costs.

The early delivery bonus on maize which has been approved at the rate of \$20 per tonne for deliveries in April this year and \$15 per tonne for deliveries in May had been extended to cover the deliveries in June at the rate of \$10 per tonne.

It has also been agreed that in view of the need to encourage an increase in maize production next season, a pre-planting price for maize only would be announced in due course.

Sen Norman also promised to make a general policy statement later in the year on agricultural production in the 1984-85 season.

The Deputy Minister, Dr Swithun Mombeshora, explained why he felt the Ministry had tried to meet farmers' demands half way.

He said measures taken on maize production had been based on the fact that it is the most important food crop both in Zimbabwe and the African region.

Because of the three-year drought, stocks had dwindled to an unsatisfactory position and that was why there had to be a 1983-84 pre-planting price fixture.

Last year producer price of \$120 a tonne had to be revamped because the Government wanted more farmers to grow maize.

Cde Mombeshora said: "Because of our situation due to the drought and also the need to increase production so that we have a surplus, we have undertaken to announce at a later stage a pre-planting price which we hope should make more people want to grow maize.

Of groundnuts he said the \$450 a tonne had been arrived at by taking into consideration the crop's vital importance both as a nutritive and foreign exchange earner.

Cde Mombeshora said: "What I expect of farmers is to appreciate the position of Government that it is concerned about the farmer and will go out of its way to support him.

"We must also take into account the farmers' problems brought about by the drought."

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